U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

March 15, 2007

MR ERNIE LAZAR
APARTMENT # 6
577 SOUTH THORNHILL ROAD
PALM SPRINGS, CA 92264 7884

Subject: FILE 62-104401 SERIALS 852-952

FOIPA No. 1069809- 000

Dear Requester:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Deletions have been made to protect information which is exempt from disclosure, with the appropriate exemptions noted on the page next to the excision. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted in the file to indicate where pages were withheld entirely. The exemptions used to withhold information are marked below and explained on the enclosed Form OPCA-16a:

Section 552		Section 552a
☐(b)(1)	☐(b)(7)(A)	☐(d)(5)
☒(b)(2)	☐(b)(7)(B)	☐(j)(2)
☐(b)(3)_____	☒(b)(7)(C)	☐(k)(1)
_____	☒(b)(7)(D)	☐(k)(2)
_____	☐(b)(7)(E)	☐(k)(3)
_____	☐(b)(7)(F)	☐(k)(4)
☐(b)(4)	☐(b)(8)	☐(k)(5)
☐(b)(5)	☐(b)(9)	☐(k)(6)
☒(b)(6)		☐(k)(7)

301 **page(s)** were reviewed and 300 **page(s)** are being released.

☐ Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning other Government agency(ies) [OGA]. This information has been:

- ☐ referred to the OGA for review and direct response to you.
- ☐ referred to the OGA for consultation. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is finished.

☒ You have the right to appeal any denials in this release. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Director, Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice,1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001 within sixty days from the date of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

☐ The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject(s) of your request was the focus of the investigation. Our search located additional references, in files relating to other individuals, or matters, which may or may not be about your subject(s). Our experience has shown, when ident, references usually contain information similar to the information processed in the main file(s). Because of our significant backlog, we have given priority to processing only the main investigative file(s).

If you want the references, you must submit a separate request for them in writing, and they will be reviewed at a later date, as time and resources permit.

☒ See additional information which follows.

Sincerely yours,

David M. Hardy
Section Chief
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)

Pursuant to Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 16.11 and 16.49, there is a fee of ten cents per page for duplication. No fees are assessed for the first 100 pages. Your check or money order, payable to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the amount of $20.00, is due upon receipt of this communication.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 3/21/61

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (94-771)

SUBJECT: [redacted]

b6
b7C

RESEARCH (CORRESPONDENCE AND TOURS)

Robert A. Welsh

Re Bureau airtel 3/16/61 captioned as above.

[redacted] was contacted at his residence on 3/21/61 by SA [redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted] was advised as instructed in referenced Bureau airtel. No discussion was had concerning ROBERT WELCH or the John Birch Society.

[redacted] expressed his deep appreciation for such a prompt reply to his letter and was extremely appreciative that an Agent called on him.

no further action
rec. 3-27-61
RWA

62-104401-853

REC-93

MAR 28 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

RUC.
2 - Bureau
1 - Los Angeles

JAN:tzg
(3)

51 MAR 31 1961

*220,504

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-2-86 BY pmacmre

16
3-15-61

airtel

To: SAC, Los Angeles

From: Director, FBI

[redacted]

b6
b7C

RESEARCH (CORRESPONDENCE AND TOURS)

Enclosed are two copies of an incoming dated 3-5-61 from captioned individual. Bufiles contain no references to him.

You are instructed to have one of your Agents contact [redacted] and advise him that while we do not ordinarily comment on the integrity of any individual, publication or organization, our files contain no information which would impugn the reputation, character, integrity or loyalty to the United States of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower or his brother, Milton. Under no circumstances should any comment be made concerning either Robert Welch, his book entitled "The Politician" or the John Birch Society.

b6
b7C

Submit results of this interview, under above caption, to reach Bureau no later than 3-24-61.

Enclosures (2)

Follow-up made for 3-24-61

MAILED 27
MAR 16 1961
COMM-FBI

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

RVA:jab
(6)

51 MAR 31 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

[redacted] b6 b7C

March 5, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

Is there any evidence that either Dwight D. Eisenhower or Milton Eisenhower is or ever has been a member of, or associated with, the Communist Party, as charged in Robert Welch's book, "The Politician"?

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Welch

[redacted] b6 b7C

nmc
ack auth'd to SAC, LA
3/15/61
RVA/jah

2 autostats
3/15/61
jah

REC-93 62-104401-852

MAR 27 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

#220504

4.2.86 Sp7magmke

March 23, 1961

REC- 85 62-104401-854

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 16 and appreciate the interest which prompted your communication.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 1961
COMM-FBI

4.2.86 Spmacmxe

Enclosures (4)
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet [redacted]onage
One Nation's Res[redacted] Communism
Series from Chri[redacted]ty [redacted]oday.

b6
b7C

NOTE: Bufiles c[redacted] record identifiable with [redacted] The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a front in order to attract true subversives. (see next page)

AFH:pak (3)

Tolson
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Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

56 MAR 31 1961

MAR 22 3 46 PM '61

Letter to [redacted] 3-23-61 b6 b7C

NOTE continued:

Welch has bitterly criticized the Administration of former President Eisenhower in the past .

TRUE COPY

March 16, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director of Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am seeking some information concerning The John Birch Society: I would like to know something about this organization - not only from the F.B.I. imformation collected - but also your personal opinion. I would also like to know something of its founder - Mr. Robert Welch. Some remarks that I have heard is that he is very dictatorial. Please send me all available imformation you possible can.

I am not a member - I have heard so much ~~imformation~~ comment - I am curious

you are one American who
holds the respect of all
true citizens

Respectfully yours

/s/ [redacted]

b6
b7C

K

REC- 85

62-104401-854

MAR 27 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-2-86 BY [illegible]

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 3-16-61

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY (JBS)
ATTEMPT TO DISTRIBUTE BUREAU LITERATURE
WITHOUT APPROVAL

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

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Reference is made to your memorandum to Mr. Mohr of 3-14-61 (attached), which advised that a printer in Santa Barbara, California, had advised our Los Angeles Office that he had received an order from JBS to print 10,000 copies of the poster, "What You Can Do To Fight Communism." JBS also requested the printer to print an addition on the poster to the effect that it was being distributed by the JBS.

ASAC William Alexander of Los Angeles was advised on 3-14-61 that we should have nothing to do with JBS since obviously they were attempting to capitalize on the Director's prestige. He was told that the printer should be informed that the FBI had not given approval for JBS to reproduce the poster nor could we approve of the addition to the poster reflecting its distribution by JBS.

It was recommended and approved by the Director that an SAC Letter be prepared instructing the Field that (1) No Bureau publications are to be made available to JBS, (2) Alert the Field to the possibility that JBS may attempt to reproduce and distribute Bureau publications, and (3) That any requests by JBS for permission to reproduce Bureau publications should be turned down.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-2-86 BY

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached SAC Letter regarding the John Birch Society be approved.

Enclosures (2)
sent 3-17-61

1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enclosure
1 - Mr. Belmont - Enclosure
1 - Mr. Malone - Enclosure

REC 74 62-104401-855

EX 101

MAR 27 1961

CRIME RESEARCH

BS:dgs
(7)

50 MAR 31 1961

gm 62-104401-856

REC- 85

March 27, 1961

[redacted]

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 17, 1961, and your generous remarks about my administration of the FBI, and my book, "Masters of Deceit," are indeed appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of the correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

JMM:lcl* (3)

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Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

66 APR 3 1961

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. [illegible]ach
Mr. [illegible]ans
Mr. [illegible]alone
Mr. R[illegible]son
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ing[illegible]m
Miss Gandy

March 17, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Last week, after considerable thought and reading, my husband and I became members of The John Birch Society. Our decision did not rest on the Society's literature alone, but on that plus reading material from other sources which substantiated most of Mr. Welch's information.

Such books as Inside The State Department: Barron
No Wonder We Are Losing : Robert Morris
Communist America - Must It Be?: Dr. Hargis
Wedemeyer Reports : Wedemeyer
Brainwashing In The High Schools : Root
The Dan Smoot Reports :etc., all depict an extremely serious situation. The films Operation Abolition and Communism On The Map are hard-hitting, graphic channels of the facts we have to face. The information gathered from these combined sources propel one into an avenue of positive action.

The John Birch Society, which we feel was and still is being badly maligned, seems to offer one of the most constructive means for both individual and group effort. Our understanding is that they have a clean bill of health but rather than accept this irresponsibly we contacted our local FBI. They were not at liberty to confirm this or give any information.

Our association with the Society has been relatively short but at no time have we been subjected to pressure or persuasion, nor has our support ever been solicited. This is also true of friends who are presently associated with other chapters. We feel it's a great credit to The John Birch Society that they promote a healthy interest on the part of the individual to properly and intelligently participate in government according to the dictates of the individual's own conscience. For the first time in my life I've written our representatives in government regarding bills now pending. And, for the first time in my life I truly understand that freedom is not just a right but also a responsibility.

Today, reading your very fine book Masters Of Deceit, I'm prompted to write and ask for your opinion and advice. We're aware of the grave responsibility in associating ourselves with this effort and are anxious that the devotion to God, Country and our Fellowman be properly directed and conducted.

REC-85 62-104401-856

We are deeply appreciative of your magnificent work in maintaining our Country's security and safety.

23 MAR 28 1961

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Ack: 3/24/61
JMM: lcl

[redacted]

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI DATE: 3/24/61

FROM : SAC, BUTTE (62-1672)

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFO. CONCERNING (INTERNAL SECURITY)

Re SAC Letter 60-5(C) captioned "ROBERT H. WELCH, Jr., - INFORMATION CONCERNING (INTERNAL SECURITY)," and Butte letter to Bureau, 9/9/60, with same caption as this letter.

The "Montana Standard," a Butte, Montana, daily newspaper, issue of 1/31/61, reported that [redacted] an area co-ordinator of the JOHN BIRCH Society, would speak in Butte that day. Subsequent information was received indicating efforts of various responsible persons in Butte to form a JOHN BIRCH Society.

b6
b7C

Films have been shown and lectures given in Dillon, Montana, concerning the Society and efforts made to organize a Chapter in that small community.

Through correspondence with the Bureau by an interested individual it was ascertained that a Chapter has been formed in Sidney, Montana.

During 3/61, information was received that ~~a sister~~ ANOTHER Chapter has been formed in Stevensville, Montana.

Recent contacts with this Office by interested citizens inquiring about the Society indicate a growing ~~disallusionment~~ DISILLUSIONMENT by people with the material published by the Society. Further, the recent article in "Time Magazine," concerning the Society, as well as a series of articles being published by the "People's Voice," a weekly newspaper published in Helena, Montana, concerning the Society, have done much to bring about this feeling on the part of local citizens.

cc destroyed

62-104401 857

2 - Bureau (Reg.)
1 - Butte
THZ/ar

(3)

REC-113

7 MAR 27 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-2-86 [illegible]

APR 6 1961

BT #62-1672

There has been no indication from Confidential Informants or other sources of efforts by subversive elements to take over or to use this Society or its Chapters.

This is for the Bureau's information.

Routing Slip
FD-4 (Rev. 12-4-57)

Date 3/28/61

To

[XXX] Director (AM)

Att.

[ ] SAC

[ ] ASAC

[ ] Supv.

[ ] Agent

[ ] SE

[ ] CC

[ ] Steno

[ ] Clerk

BT FILE # 62-1672

Title JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY INFO. CONCERNING (INTERNAL SECURITY)

ACTION DESIRED

- [ ] Acknowledge
- [ ] Assign ..... Reassign .....
- [ ] Bring file
- [ ] Call me
- [XXX] Correct
- [ ] Deadline .....
- [ ] Deadline passed
- [ ] Delinquent
- [ ] Discontinue
- [ ] Expedite
- [ ] File
- [ ] Initial & return
- [ ] Leads need attention
- [ ] Open Case
- [ ] Prepare lead cards
- [ ] Prepare tickler
- [ ] Recharge serials
- [ ] Return assignment card
- [ ] Return file
- [ ] Return serials
- [ ] Search and return
- [ ] See me
- [ ] Send Serials .....
  to .....
- [ ] Submit new charge-out
- [ ] Submit report by .....
- [ ] Type
- [ ] Return with explanation or notation as to action taken.

Re Butte letter to Bureau, 3/24/61.

Please make following corrections: Para. 5, line 2, change "sister" to "another", and delete "a" in line 1 of this paragraph; para. 6, line 4, word 1 should be spelled "disillusionment".

SAC MAYNOR

[ ] See reverse side

Office BUTTE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-2-90 BY [illegible]

REC-85 3-24-61

62-104401-858

airtel

To: SAC, El Paso

From: Director, FBI

[redacted]

b6
b7C

RESEARCH (CORRESPONDENCE AND TOURS)

Enclosed is a copy of a telegram from the above-captioned individual dated March 23, 1961. As it is not possible to determine her address from Ft. Stockton telephone directory, you are instructed to obtain her address from Western Union Office at Ft. Stockton and personally acknowledge her communication to me. Of course, she should be advised that the FBI does not furnish evaluations or comments concerning any individual, organization or publication. Consequently, it will not be possible for me to accede to her request. Suairtel results to reach Bureau, Attention: Research (Correspondence and Tours), by 4-4-61.

Enclosure

4.2.86 Spinacyxe

MAILED 19
MAR 24 1961
COMM-FBI

Follow-up for 4-4-61.

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12-58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout [illegible] and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the S[illegible] in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhow[illegible]
(62-104401)
JMM:ner (6)

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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gand

62 MAR 31 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAR 23 1961

WESTERN UNION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

BIA013 129P EST MAR 23 61 NSA229

DB209 D FTA006 PD AR FT STOCKTON TEX 23 1151A CST

J EDGAR HOOVER

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION UNITED STATES DEPT OF JUSTICE

WASHDC

RESPECTIFULLY REQUEST VERIFICATION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT YOU HAVE ENDORSED JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY. PLEASE WIRE ANSWER

[redacted] REC- 85 62-104401-858

b6
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-2-86 JPMacmke

18 MAR 27 1961

CORR

nmd
aisted to SAC, El Paso
3-24-61
JMM

1 ant
3-24-61
nar

cc: [redacted]

REC- 95 62-104111-859

March 22, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 12, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAIL ROOM 1961

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (5)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Beat Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
Series from "Christianity Today"
One Nation's Response to Communism

see NOTE next page

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

JMM:lcl* (3)

Letter to [redacted]

b6
b7C

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

b6
b7C

[redacted]

March 12, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

BAUMGARDNER

Several months ago I became a member of the John Birch Society. In view of recent publicity on the West Coast, I find myself in position of defending the Society against charges of the very thing it is dedicated to destroy.

I would very much appreciate your advising me regarding the following:

1. Is this, to your knowledge, a patriotic American group, loyal to our country?

2. Has there ever been any subversion connected with this Society?

3. Has Robert Welsh, the Founder of the John Birch Society, ever been connected with any subversive groups?

Thank you for whatever information you can give me regarding the above.

Very truly yours,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

MAR 15 1961

REC- 95 62-104401 859

MAR 27 1961

ack: 3/22/61
JMM: ecl

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-2-94 BY [illegible]

EX-114

62-107401-860

REC 69

March 22, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 13, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

M. Edgar Hoover

MAR 27 4 22 PM '61
READING ROOM
FBI

RECEIVED

Enclosures (5)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Beat Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
Series from "Christianity Today"
One Nation's Response to Communism

see NOTE next page

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

JMM:lcl* (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
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Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4.2.86 BY SP MACMURE

Letter to [redacted]

b6
b7C

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

13 March 1961

Sir,

Recently I joined an organization known as the John Birch Society". Their aims and approaches to the CommUNist menace seem to me to be quite solid. In my opinion this organization appears to be the only American group which is actively doing something concrete to destroy the threat of CommUNism in the United States of America.

What I would like from the F.B.I. and you, sir, is a letter either approving or disapproving the John Birch Society.

A Sincere Loyal American,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

MAR 16 1961

ack: 3/22/61
IMM: lcl

EX-114

62-104401-860

REC-60

7 MAR 27 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4.2.86 BY [illegible]

EX-114

62-104401-861

REC- 68

March 22, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 12, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

In view of your wish to help combat communism, I am enclosing publications which offer citizens suggestions as to how they can protect our American way of life.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 2 3 1961
COMM-FBI

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
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Enclosures (5)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Beat Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
Series from "Christianity Today"
One Nation's Response to Communism

see NOTE next page

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

63 MAR 31

DCL:lel (3)

Letter to [redacted]

b6
b7C

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

TRUE COPY

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I am writing to you in the hope that you can help me. I have never kept up with politics and am one of the many Americans who would be labeled apathetic, I'm sure. But the last few years I've become more aware of my responsibility to my country-- The only thing is, I simply don't know how I can best help America to eliminate Communism. I hope you will not think I am silly in writing to you, but I am very confused as to what action I, as an individual, could take. I hear that the press, radio, & T. V. media are Communist controlled. I read about the offenses of the leaders of our country and I wonder if the things they say are true. If there is any organization that you would recommend to join to help fight Communism, please let me know what it is-- I know about the John Birch Society and have considered joining it. Would you be willing to give me your opinion of this organization? I shall deeply appreciate your reply--

Sincerely yours --

[redacted]

b6
b7C

March 12, 1961

1 T. copy 3-21-61 efr

ack: 3/22/ EX-114 DCLidel

REC'D 62-104401-861

12 MAR 27 1961

nml

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 1-2-86 BY SP MacMillan

March 23, 1961

REC- 79 62-104401-862

EX-108

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter was received on March 20, 1961, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 2 1961
COMM-FBI

MAR 23 4 21 PM '61

Enclosures (5)
Communist Party, USA
How to Fight Communism
Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion
Expose of Soviet Espionage
One Nation's Response to Communism

see NOTE next page

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

57 MAR 31 1961

JMM:lcl* (3)

4.2.86 Sp macmte

Letter to [redacted]

b6
b7C

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. D[illegible]
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
[illegible]
Tele. [illegible]
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

March 13, 1961

[redacted] b6 b7C

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

After reading a recent article in Time Magazine, criticizing the John Birch Society, its purposes and methods, and stating that this society promotes Communist-style front organizations that do not use the John Birch name, it would be greatly appreciated if I could receive your honest viewpoint as to the quality and merits of this organization. This group is receiving much bad publicity, as well as good publicity, over the nation at this time and I find it quite confusing to evaluate what the press is presenting to the public.

I am familiar with their way of thinking and the goals, which they would like to see occur in the future.

My profession is in the field of teaching and I consider all efforts that the American people do at this time in our history to be a major concern to all of us. Therefore, I am interested in this group and whether it could be considered a source of valid American principles in these United States of America.

If at all possible, it would be of much benefit for me to receive your views concerning this matter, as soon as your busy schedule will premit.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

[redacted] b6 b7C

62-104401-862

Ack: 3/23/61
JMM: ld

REC-79

7 MAR 27 1961

EX-108

CORRESPONDENCE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-2-86 BY SP MacIntyre

RA REC-22 62-104401-863

March 24, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

I have received your cordial letter of March 19, 1961, and the interest which prompted you to communicate with me on this occasion is indeed appreciated.

Although I do wish it were possible to be of assistance, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry. I am sure from the foregoing that it would not have been possible for a representative of the FBI to have commented as you indicated.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

1 - Memphis - Enclosure

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of the correspondent. Editorial clippings reflect limited but cordial relations with "The Nashville Tennessean."

JMM:lcw
(4)

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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

63 MAR 30 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

MAR 24 4 43 PM '61
FBI
READING ROOM

TRUE COPY

[redacted]

b6
b7C

March 19, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover.
Director Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I apologize for intruding upon your very busy schedule, but I have heard so many supposedly quotes from your office regarding the John Birch Society that I decided the only way to know the truth is to go to the source.

I realize you cannot endorse any group, but I value your opinion in this matter above anyone else in the Nation and would be most grateful for any help you might give me.

Our local newspaper, The Nashville Tennessean, a consistently left-winged publication, quotes a spokesman of the Washington office of the FBI as saying the society is "irresponsible but not subversive." Of course they do not use his name.

Is this your evaluation of the group or do you feel it is a patriotic organization which might possible, at least, serve to awaken America from her apathetic state?

My husband and I have already joined the society, but we do not want to remain if it is irresponsible because we feel by being associated with a radical irresponsible Society we might lose whatever effectiveness we might bear.

REC-22 62-104401-863

I will be most grateful for any comments or guidence you might give me and again I apologize for writing. I know you must receive thousands of these letters every day.

MAR 27 1961

Yours very truly,

/s/ [redacted]

b6
b7C

ack 24
3-22-61
5 min 1 dmk

1 to Snade
3-22-61
dmk

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-2-86 BY [illegible]

RA

March 24, 1961

REC- 22 62-104401-864

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 12, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated. I want to thank you for your kind remarks.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is material dealing with the general subject of communism, and some items contain suggestions as to what we Americans can do.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAR 20 1961

17 PM '61

Enclosures (5)
Director's speech of 10-18-60
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage
17th National Convention & 3-60 LEB Intro.
One Nation's Response To Communism

See NOTE next page.
RWE:pjh (3)

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Ingram
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56 MAR 30 1961

4.2.86

b6
b7C

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent.

The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the president to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

[redacted] b6
b7C

March 12, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
F. B. I.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am just reading your very informative book Masters of Deceit. Thank God for such a fine Christian man like you, and I hope you may continue to direct the F. B. I. for many more years.

Last week I was privileged to attend several meetings of the Orange County School of Anti-Communism at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim. [redacted] and W. Cleon Skousen had so much to offer and I only wish more Americans would awaken to the great need for Christian action in combating this diabolical plan underway in our great nation. b6 b7C

I have read in the Los Angeles Times about the John Birch Society and would like to know your evaluation of this organization. I've heard so many things said pro and con, ~~but~~ and I'm skeptical until I know the truth from you.

I have written several letters to the White House, the State Department, and the U.S. Attorney General urging their support of the legislation introduced by Rep. H. Allen Smith which would outlaw the Communist Party as a legal entity in the U.S. Since I have not had any experience in writing before (to our legislators) I would like to know how else one might help a good cause. I read of Rep. Smith's legislation in a letter written to the Los Angeles Times.

I shall appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted] b6
b7C

P.S.
I am a teacher of geography - seventh grade level.

REC- 22

62-104401-864

MAR 27 1961

P.S. I am a teacher of geography - seventh grade level.

EXP. PROC.

MAR 16 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-2-86 BY Spmacinto

3-24-61

DD-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

2:12PM March 9, 1961

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. Jones
Mr. W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

Senator MILTON R. YOUNG (R. - North Dakota) telephoned through secretary for the Director. He was advised of the Director's absence and was referred to Mr. Leinbaugh in Mr. DeLoach's absence.

Senator Young said he and Senator Mansfield made critical statements yesterday regarding the John Birch Society. Defenders of the Society claim that the Director has endorsed the Society and Mr. Leinbaugh emphatically denied this. Senator Young also said that the Society claims that the Director has stated that 70% to 80% of the officials of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare were communists or had been influenced by the communists. Mr. Leinbaugh told the Senator that this had been previously brought to the Director's attention and that it is totally untrue in that the Director has not made such a ridiculous assertion.

Senator Young said he would appreciate a letter pointing out this information.

Mr. Leinbaugh is preparing a memorandum.

ceh

REC-96 62-104401-865

11 MAR 27 1961

CRIME RESEARCH

51 MAR 31 1961

REC-65 62-104401-866

March 27, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 20, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (3)
Communism: Bitter Enemy of Religion
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Expose of Soviet Espionage

RWE:efr (3)

see NOTE next page

Tolson
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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

62 MAR 31 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

MAR 7 4 22 PM '61

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-3-86 SD Macnice

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

March 20, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director, F.B.I.
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

As I am the mother of two young children I have been quite concerned about the menace and spread of Communism here in the United States. I would like to do all I can to help keep this country free for my children and the future generations.

I have always been under the impression that the John Birch Society was one of the leading anti-Communist organizations but according to a series of articles in the L.A. Times and an editorial [redacted] it is a menace to society. b6 b7C

As you have always been the leader in the fight against Communism, I wonder if you would be kind enough to give me your views on the Society. I usually read all these articles with tongue in cheek but on this subject I think we should have all the help possible.

Thank you and God bless you for your wonderful work in keeping America free.

Very sincerely yours

[redacted] b6 b7C

[redacted]

REC-65 62-104401-866

13 MAR 28 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-2-86 BY [illegible]

March 27, 1961

REC. 19 62-104401-867

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 19, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

I am enclosing some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest. Several of these items contain suggestions as to methods of opposing subversive influences.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
What You Can Do Fight Communism
God and Country or Communism
Communist Targets: Youth
Christianity Today Series
LEB Intro. 3-60, Analysis of 17th Natl.

NOTE: No record could be locate[redacted]orres-pondent.

HHA:lmv
(3)

(Continued on next page)

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-2-86

APR 7 2 36 PM '61

[redacted]

b6
b7C

(Note continued)

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

TRUE COPY

March 19, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have been reading a lot about the John Birch Society, and my husband and I are considering joining. Before we do we are planning to see a film on the subject, and read more literature on the subject.

I would very much like to know how you rate this society. We are interested in fighting communism. Is this the way to do it?

I am very concerned and would like very much to know if the John Birch Society is all it claims to be, and an effective way for us as individuals to fight communism.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

/s/ [redacted]

b6
b7C

ack 3-27-61
H Hailmer

mml
True Copy
3/24/61
Cjk

REC- 19 62-104401- 867

17 MAR 29 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-2-96 [illegible]

REC-19 62-104401-868

March 28, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 15, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated. Your comments are most encouraging.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (3)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Communist Party, USA
Expose of Soviet Espionage

SAW:mca
(3)

NOTE NEXT PAGE

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NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
The John Birch Society was founded in 12-58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of fomer President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

[redacted] b6 b7C

March 15, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director-Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

My daughter, a student at Kansas University, has written to me concerned over the fact that a small group on the campus is attempting to start a cell of the John Birch Society. According to her, the proponents of this idea profess to be anti-communists.

I have always attempted to have both my daughters, now students at Kansas University, read each of your speeches concerned with the subject of communism in order that they might be guided accordingly while at college. I am totally unaware of the organization to which she refers. If you are in possession of information concerning this society which you could furnish to me, I would appreciate it.

I trust that this letter finds you in the best of health.

Sincerely

[redacted] b6 b7C

REC- 19 62-104401-868

MAR 29 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI DATE: 3/27/61

FROM : SAC, CHARLOTTE

SUBJECT: [redacted] b6 b7C
THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY (JBS)

Re SAC Let 61-14 (D) dated 3/21/61 regarding JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY (JBS).

[redacted] He is on the Bureau mailing list to receive publications, his home address being [redacted] b6 b7C

[redacted] is personally known to SA [redacted] at Greenwood, S. C. On 3/24/61, he volunteered the fact he is the [redacted] of The John Birch Society. He did not indicate he had actually formed a chapter at Greenwood, S. C.

He has been actively fighting communism for the past several years. He has always praised the Bureau and is known to be a great admirer of the Director.

The above is furnished in view of referenced SAC Letter which states no Bureau publications of any kind are to be made available to JBS or to any of its representatives.

2 - Bureau
2 - Charlotte (100-9548) (100-7106)
ERG:pae
(4)

REC-101

62 APR 18 1961

REC-79

62-104401-870

March 22, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

4/2/86 Spmacmle

I have received your letter of March 19 concerning a news article which quotes the FBI in the March 19, 1961, issue of the "Nashville Tennessean."

While I would like to be of service in connection with your request, I must inform you that the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and does not furnish evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The files of the FBI are confidential by order of the Attorney General of the United States.

I wish to thank you for your interest in bringing this matter to my attention.

MAR 22 1 47 PM '61

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

1 - Memphis

1 - [redacted] (Sent Direct)

b6
b7C

NOTE: Bufiles contain no identifiable data on [redacted] except that on August 8, 1960, he commended the Director on "Masters of Deceit" and also on the pamphlet "Communist Target--Youth." [redacted] was thanked by the Director by letter dated August 16, 1960, for his kind remarks (62-104277-1557) "An FBI spokesman" has, of course, not furnished any information of this nature to the "Nashville Tennessean."

REW:sak (5)

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51 MAR 31 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

[redacted]

March 19, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Todays WASHVILLE TENNESSEAN carries a story on the John [redacted] Birch Society under the [redacted] The following paragraph is included.

> "An FBI spokesman in Washington said last week the FBI has been 'looking into' activities of the society. He said, based on what it knows, the FBI would characterize the society as "irresponsible but not subversive." He said many professional anti-Communists are tied in with the society for the purpose of making money through speeches."

It has been my understanding that the FBI did not make information from their files available to private citizens or to the press. Has this policy changed? If not, how does [redacted] quote the FBI?

I will appreciate your comments on this matter.

Very truly yours,

[redacted]

[redacted]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Delaney
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W. C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

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MAR 20 1961

REC 79

62-104401-870

6 MAR 28 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

4-2-86

March 27, 1961

REC- 61 62-104401-211

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter dated March 20, 1961, and enclosure have been received, and I am glad to know that you found the material sent you of interest.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only, due to regulations of the Department of Justice. I am unable, furthermore, to answer specific inquiries since this Bureau, as a Federal investigative agency, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

The pamphlet you forwarded has been brought to our attention on a number of occasions. It indicates that statements found therein are documented in the files of Government investigating agencies, but I can assure you that neither the Cinema Educational Guild, Inc., nor its national director, Myron C. Fagan, has ever had access to information contained in the files of this Bureau. The pamphlet in question is being returned.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure
"Don't Patronize Reds!!!"

b6
b7C

NOTE: [redacted] wrote the Director on 3-6-61, stating that she was a member of an organization which she called Group for Good Government and she also called it Good Government Group. Such an organization was not

(Continued on next page)

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51 APR 4 1961

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DCL:mb (3)

b6
b7C

NOTE (Continued): readily identifiable in Bufiles. She was sent certain Bureau publications by Bulet 3-10-61. No other pertinent references.

The John Birch Society was founded in 12-58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under law of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

Enclosure was a pamphlet concerning "Reds" in Hollywood and TV which has come to the Bureau's attention in the past. The Cinema Educational Guild, Inc., is allegedly an anticommunist group which has been responsible for the distribution of anticommunist, anti-Negro and anti-Semitic pamphlets. Myron C. Fagan, its national director, has, in the past, attempted to use the Director's name in furtherance of his programs, and it has been necessary on several occasions to contact him and request that he refrain from mentioning the FBI in any manner. (62-87267)

TRUE COPY

3-20-61

Dear Mr. Hoover, John Birch Society

I was so glad to receive your welcome publications. Thank you so much. They are most interesting and will aid us greatly I'm sure. I plan to use several of these in a talk my husband & I are giving our high school age church group. They asked us to come and speak to them about communism (26th) so I certainly want to take advantage of the opportunity.

A question has risen since I last wrote to you concerning the John Burch Society. What do you think of the organization & where do they obtain their information? I have talked to a member of this group several times. She has a list of books that are communistic and my sister-in-law (a Jr. in H.S.) found her history book on that list. This member has also told me that Dean Atcheson & Dean Rusk were subversive characters & since Kennedy chose them for his cabinet I could draw my own conclusions about him. She also mentioned Adlai Stephenson & Eleanor Roosevelt, also Gov. Rockefeller along with these men. Should I believe all this? And if so, what can we do about this history book?

Also--is the enclosed leaflet authentic & true? I sent for these & have sent some to each radio & T.V. station & theater in town. The FBI here referred me to a book in the library called "Guide to Subversive Organizations". I didn't find it there, but would like your opinion on it.

Thank you again for your help.

Sincerely,

/s/ [redacted] b6 b7C

REC-61

62-104401-8 71

17 MAR 28 1961

ENCLOSURE (returned)

3-27-61

3-24-61

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-2-86 BY [illegible]

REC-79 62-104401 872

March 24, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 20, 1961, and I readily appreciate the interest which has prompted you to communicate with me on this occasion.

For your information, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry. I am sure from the foregoing you will realize that no representative of this Bureau could have made the statement you mentioned.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

1 - Memphis - Enclosure

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information regarding the correspondent to preclude sending this communication. Editorial ticklers reflect that we have had limited but cordial correspondence with "The Nashville Tennessean." It is pointed out that "an FBI spokesman" did not so state to the Tennessean.

JMM:lmv
(4)

See note continued next page

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66 APR 3 1961

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NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

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Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

March 20, 1961

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In the March 19, 1961, issue of The Nashville Tennessean there is a story which is extremely critical of The John Birch Society. Among other things, this story states:

"An FBI spokesman in Washington said last week the FBI has been 'looking into' activities of the society. He said based on what it knows, the FBI would characterize the society as 'irresponsible but not subversive.' He said many professional anti-Communists are tied in with the society for the purpose of making money through speeches."

The entire story was slanted so as to smear The John Birch Society and therefore it may be that this statement was not true. However, if the statement was true, I would like to hear it from you as I have confidence in what you say. I am a member of The John Birch Society and if the reference to the FBI spokesman is correct, I would like to make every effort to eliminate from the society all irresponsible elements and professional anti-Communists who are tied with the society for the purpose of making money through speeches. Therefore, I would appreciate it very much if you would give me the following information:

1. Did an FBI spokesman say last week that the FBI had been looking into activities of The John Birch Society? If so, what was the name of the spokesman and what was his actual statement?

2. Has the FBI been looking into the activities of the society? If so, what caused the FBI to undertake this investigation and what has been revealed by the investigation?

62-104401-872

3. Are there any professional anti-Communists tied in with the society for the purpose of making money through

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DATE 4-2-86 BY SP MACMILL

speeches? If so, what are their names and addresses, when did they make speeches, how much and by whom were they paid for their speeches and what was the connection of The John Birch Society with paying these men for making speeches?

4. Do you believe that The John Birch Society is a well-meaning patriotic organization?

5. Do you believe that the society is of any help in the fight against Communism?

6. Is The John Birch Society producing a pecuniary profit for Robert Welch or others?

7. Please give me any other information concerning the society that would reveal whether it is good or bad and whether it should be supported or opposed.

I do not know whether the FBI has investigated The John Birch Society but, in view of the vigorous attacks made against the society by liberal newspapers and magazines, I think it would be very good if the FBI would investigate the society. Most organizations which oppose Communism become the victims of smear attacks. If the attack on The John Birch Society is sufficiently effective, its effectiveness will be destroyed and, in this case, it would be useless for me and other members to waste our time trying to further the cause of the society and we would be better off devoting our efforts elsewhere.

Respectfully yours,

[redacted]

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[redacted]

1A 62-104401-873

March 27, 1961

[redacted]

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Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 16, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry. I am unable to comment regarding the films you mentioned in your communication as this Bureau had no connection with the production of them.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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Enclosures (5)
One Nation's Response to Communism
17th National Convention CP, USA
Communist-Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage
God & Country or Communism?

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SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

RWE:hmm (3)

NOTE: The complete acknowledgment regarding "Operation Abolition" was not offered as literature is sent out with this acknowledgement. She only asks if the films should be pushed. No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

TRUE COPY

Mar. 16. 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington. D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover--

Would you please give me information on the John Birch Society. (such as- is it a good organization for 100 % American)

Also should the films "Communism on the Map" & "Operation Abolition" be pushed.

I am writing you because many people seem to be fighting it and talking against it such as librarians, and say it is distorted.

Please give me some definite information regarding both.

They both sound very good to me- & I think someone should be working on this fight here in Glendale.

Sincerely yours

/s/ [redacted]

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[redacted]

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ltr 3-22-61
rwe/mb

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DATE 4.2.86 BY [illegible]

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EX-114 62-104401-874

March 27, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter postmarked March 17, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated. I want to thank you for your kind remarks concerning the FBI.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature pertaining to the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
What you can do to Fight Communism
Director's Speech of October 18, 1960
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Our Nation's Response to Communism

RWE:cjk

NOTE NEXT PAGE

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62 APR 4 1961 MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-2-96 BY SP Moenke

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12-58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent.

TRUE COPY

[redacted] b6 b7C

March 15, 1961

Federal Bureau of
Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs,

Some of our friends in town have given us booklets and pamphlets by a Mr Welch of Belmont, Massachusetts concerning a "John Birch Society." On the face of it it appears sincere and worth while in its efforts to recognize and expose communism infiltration in our government and society.

Would you be kind enough to tell me if this "John Birch" society - its magazine "American Opinion" - its founder Mr. Welch - are of a worth while character.

Whatever sincere efforts our ordinary citizen can make for the real good of our country would demand all the help I am capable of. However I do not care to get connected with either foolishness nor distorted efforts.

My husband and I really need your help in this matter.

Our appreciation also for the very fine work you people do.

EX-114

REC-46 62-104401-874

Yours truly

17 MAR 29 1961

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/s/

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March 28, 1961

REC-74 62-104111-875

[redacted]

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Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 21, 1961, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service in answering your inquiry, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your communication.

In view of your concern about the communist menace, I am enclosing some material which you might like to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

1961

Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
Do To Fight Communism Communist Target--Youth
e 17th National Convention of the CP, USA
ianity Today
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NOTE CONTINUED:.... The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anti-communist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

[redacted] b6 b7C

March 21, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am contemplating membership in an alledgedly anti-Communist organization called the John Birch Society, headed by Robert Welch, and as there has been much criticism of this organization lately, I feel it is to my best interests and the best interests of our country to check with you and get your opinion as to whether this organization is at present considered subversive or subject to suspicion because of any of its activities which you may consider questionable. From my own investigation, I feel that this organization, if used properly, can be a very effective weapon against communism in the United States and is deserving of my full support.

It is, however, difficult to know all the facts and sometimes is necessary to seek the opinion of other more experienced minds in matters of such importance. Will you give me your opinion of this organization so that I may have some additional basis for making my decision? I would sincerely appreciate your efforts in my behalf.

Respectfully yours

[redacted] b6 b7C

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MAR 29 1961

ack 3-28-61 DWB

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-2-86 BY [illegible]

March 27, 1961

REC-84 2 - 104401 876

[redacted]

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Dear [redacted]

Your letter postmarked March 20, 1961, with enclosure, has been received. The interest which prompted you to write is appreciated, and I want to thank you for your kind remarks.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In the light of the foregoing, I can assure you that no FBI representative has made such a statement as noted in the newspaper clipping which you forwarded.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

MAIL ROOM

NOTE: No material is being forwarded in that correspondent is a member of the John Birch Society. Enclosed was a newspaper clipping concerning the Society from the 3-19-61 "Nashville Tennessean" concerning the fact that a Washington FBI spokesman had called the John Birch Society "irresponsible but not subversive." The John Birch Society was founded in 12-58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extr[redacted]critical [redacted]ormer President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

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Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
c/o Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As a militant supporter of yours, of the F. B. I. and all of our internal security agencies -- and a member of the John Birch Society--I am greatly concerned over the enclosed article.

Would you please give me an honest appraisal of the John Birch Society? Was this information given to the press by the F. B. I.? In your recent statements, booklets, such as "Communist Target-Youth" and in your book "Master's of Deceit" you urge the American people to inform themselves, and to inform other on Communism. In your own words, "We cannot hope to successfully meet the Communist menace unless there is a wide Knowledge and understanding of its aims and designs." The John Birch Society has given me the inspiration to do this, because I Know that I am not alone, but working in consert with thousands of devoted Americans. If the John Birch Society is not the patriotic organization I believe it to be I want to get out. Otherwise I shall ignore any further attacks and smears from our "liberal press" as I well realize that each and every anti-communist in this country as an individual has been crucified.

I hope to receive an answer to this letter soon.

God bless you for the work you are doing, and for the convictions and ideals which you support.

EX 100 Sincerely, REC-84 62-104401-876

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED /s/ [redacted]

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25 MAR 28 1961

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Birch Society Has 200 Members Here

By PAT ANDERSON

THE John Birch Society, an organization whose founder considers both Dwight D. Eisenhower and Franklin D. Roosevelt traitors, now claims more than 200 members in Nashville.

These members, many of whom are widely-known, well-educated and conservative, agree in varying degrees with the more controversial political judgments of Robert Welch, the Massachusetts businessman who founded the Society in 1958

But they apparently accept Welch's stern warning that they have only two choices—to accept his leadership or "in a very few years you will, by force be devoting all to the maintenance of a Communist slave state."

Most local members would agree with Machin P. Davis Jr., an attorney and former state legislator, who said last week

"I have been alarmed about the successes Communism has had, and I felt the Society was doing something to counteract their successes."

Education Program

To combat Communism the Society has launched an educational program, said one local leader, businessman Horton Early. It encourages political discussion among its members It distributes such books as J. Edgar Hoover's "Masters of Deceit" and Sen Joe McCarthy's America's Retreat From Victory' and such films as 'Communism on the Map' and "Operation Abolition."

"The John Birch Society is for less big government, freedom of the individual to work and worship where he pleases and a better world," Early said.

Despite these avowed goals with which few Americans would differ, the Society has received an increasing amount of criticism, not only in Nashville but nationally

● An FBI spokesman in Washington said last week the FBI has been looking into" activities of the society. He said based on what it knows, the FBI would characterize the society as "irresponsible but not subversive." He said many professional anti-Communists are tied in with the society for the purpose of making money through speeches

● U.S. Sen. Milton R. Young (Rep.-N.D.) told the Senate Welch "has made accusations against the former President of the United States far beyond anything the late Sen. Joe McCarthy even thought of." He added "To label some of our most loyal and dedicated people as Communists plays right into the hands of the Communists."

● National news analyst Eric Sevareid called the Society "Main Street McCarthyism" and said its members "cannot understand that their own leaders are not conservatives but anti-Constitutional radicals'

● A politically conservative Vanderbilt University professor said he found in Welch's writings "elements of Fascism"

Sharpest Criticism

The sharpest criticism of the Society has been directed at the political opinions Welch has expressed in his two books "The Blue Book" and "The Politician"

In "The Blue Book," which originally was a speech Welch made while organizing the Society, he said:

● President Roosevelt and Gen George Marshall were guilty of "plain unadulterated treason" in getting America into World War II.

● President John F Kennedy (then a Senator) was Walter Reuther's "stooge," the late Russian poet-novelist Boris Pasternak was a Communist 'stooge,' Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes was "that eternal sophomore"

● 'I think Nelson Rockefeller is definitely committed to trying to make the United States a part of a one-world socialist government, while I don't think Nixon is committed to anything other than the career of Richard Nixon"

● America's press radio and television are dominated by 'Communist influences"

● Democracy is "merely a deceptive phrase a weapon of demagoguery, and a perennial fraud"

Real Bombshells

But Welch's real bombshells are in 'The Politician' a privately circulated, 300-page manifesto which became public last summer when a Society member "betrayed" Welch by showing it to a Chicago newspaperman Welch at the time was in Chicago supporting Sen Barry Goldwater's drive for the Republican presidential nomination

The following is a direct quotation from "The Politician'

"While I too think that Milton Eisenhower is a Communist and has been for 30 years, this opinion is based largely on general circumstances of his conduct But my firm belief that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy is based on an accumulation of detailed evidence so extensive and so palpable that it seems to me to put this conviction beyond any reasonable doubt"

Welch further writes of Eisenhower ". there is only one possible word to describe his purposes and actions That word is treason"

Among Society members here

The Politician' is a touchy subject Early, who said he has read it, declares

"'The Politician' has nothing to do with the John Birch Society. It was written before the Society was founded. It expresses personal opinions which have nothing to do with the Society."

Caused Resignation

But it was "The Politician" which caused the Society's first major set-back in this area — the resignation of the entire Franklin Tenn chapter

The story of the Franklin chapter's shortlived activities was related last week by a leading businessman who was active in the chapter He asked that his name not be used because Early and other Nashville members are his personal friends

The Franklin chapter was founded last May. Among its members were some of Franklin's best-known citizens They considered the Society an educational forum At one meeting a member reviewed Hoover's "Masters of Deceit" At another meeting a member presented a paper on foreign aid, which Welch opposes

Then, in the fall, the members heard about "The Politician" They wrote Welch asking for two copies of the book The copies arrived and were circulated among the chapter members In October the chapter agreed formally to disband They later received a letter from Welch saying they would want back in when things get worse

'Lot of Good'

"I think the Society has done a lot of good by encouraging people to learn about communism," the Franklin man said "I know my friends in it in Nashville are sincere and patriotic

"But we found there was a sharp difference between Welch's opinions and our opinions and we got out We couldn't draw a line between Robert Welch the author of 'The Politician' and Robert Welch, the founder of the John Birch Society"

In "The Blue Book," Welch says the Society "is to be a monolithic body" which "will operate under completely authoritative control at all levels"

People will join the Society, he says, "because they believe in me and what I am doing and are willing to accept my leadership anyway'

Don't Always Agree

But leaders here say they do not always agree with Welch

"I don't know anyone I agree with 100 per cent," Early said 'But if I didn't agree with Welch on most issues I wouldn't stay in the Society"

Early said he approves the Society's current national drive to bring about the impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren

"A lot of people who thought it was silly when they first heard about it may be surprised before long," he said of the impeachment campaign.

He also was strongly critical of the political views of a Vanderbilt University professor Dr Avery Leiserson, who recently participated in a debate on the House Un-American Activities Committee with a Society chapter leader, William Burton Jr., at the Westminster House, a Presbyterian student center at Vanderbilt

Editor Attends Debate

Thomas J Anderson editor of Farm & Ranch Magazine and a member of the Society's national council, attended this debate When Leiserson was giving his views on the House Un-American Activities Committee, Anderson rose to his feet and shouted according to witnesses

"I resent that and I resent you."

The student moderator of the debate told Anderson he would have an opportunity to speak at the end of the debate But Anderson said he had heard enough already and stormed out of the meeting Early, who was present, admitted Anderson's outburst was "rude," but he said of Leiserson

"I have nothing but contempt for him. Vanderbilt is infiltrated with many extreme left-wingers. As an alumnus, I'll do my best to get him off the faculty."

He declined to say how he would go about getting professors fired He also stressed that his opinions of Leiserson and other professors were personal opinions that had nothing to do with the Society

Denies 'Whispers'

Early denied that the Society has started whispering campaigns against any local individuals or had made anonymous telephone calls telling people their neighbors were Communists

"I doubt seriously that that has been done," he said "If I heard of anyone doing it one of us would have to go We're not trying to ferret out Communists. We're trying to inform people"

Local Birch Society activities begin in February of 1960 Early said, with a meeting at the home of Anderson Those present heard a tape recording of Welch reading from "The Blue Book," Early said

The Society now has eight chapters here, Early said, with average chapter membership of 20 to 25 These chapters meet monthly, usually at the home of their chapter leader

Chapter Leaders

Early identified the chapter leaders, in addition to himself, as Thomas M Trabue an insurance company executive Burton, an attorney, John Ambrose Jr., vice-president of Ambrose Printing Co., Richard Norvell, a partner in Norvell & Wallace Lumber Co., Thomas W Schlater, an attorney, Mark Bradford Jr., of Mark Bradford Insurance Agency, and Watt Crocket III an insurance company representative

Other leaders include Anderson, who is on the Society's national council, and Charles Howell III, of Howell & Associates contracting company, who serves as "local co-ordinator"

The Society is semi-secret, but not secret Early willingly gave the names of the local chapter leaders, but declined to give the names of any rank-and-file members He said they were assured when they joined that their names would not be disclosed

When this reporter arranged an interview with Howell, he responded by calling a meeting of eight of the Society's leaders and a reporter from another newspaper He then tape-recorded most of the "interview" which followed

The Society has been most active here with its literature and films The films are shown daily to church school and civic groups The books and pamphlets are also widely circulated.

Mounting Horror

Dr John M Aden, of the Vanderbilt University English department, is among those who have read "The Blue Book" Aden who describes himself politically as a "Goldwater conservative," said of "The Blue Book'

"I read it with mounting horror I'm quite dubious about their motives. They're attacking Communism by assuming a Fascist posture. The book kept dealing in terms of one leader, the big brother, the benevolent dictator, who would save us from the Communists.

"I think a lot of people have gotten into it under a misapprehension, without seeing the Fascist elements"

The Society's work is financed by membership dues which are listed on the last page of "The Blue Book" as

Life membership, men or women, $1,000, annual membership in the Home Chapter or local chapters $24 for men, $12 for women

Inside....

RED CHINA: Public favors attempt to improve relations 5-B

LEGISLATURE: A long look after adjournment 2-B

The Nashville Tennessean 4-2-80 Tennessean 3/19/61

Puppet Lawmakers Create Confusion

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Image of Young Allen Running to 'Doddy' Will Long Haunt Legislators

By MAC HARRIS

AFTER watching the Davidson County legislative delegation perform for the past 75 days, the people of this community should have learned one lesson well:

It is almost impossible to get anything done when lawmakers cannot speak for themselves.

That, in a nutshell, was the essential trouble with several Davidson lawmakers.

The fact that the delegation during the last week salvaged most, but not all, of the important legislation needed by this community was remarkable in the light of the many commitments some members of the delegation had made.

The most obvious of the lawmakers who did not speak for himself was young Clifford Allen III.

A Haunting Image

The image of young Allen popping up in delegation meetings with a statement prepared by his father will haunt other delegates for many nights to come.

Even to the last day of the session, young Allen was issuing such statements. On Friday morning he issued a statement to the press saying he was opposed to the sewer district bill and would not vote for it.

Allen did this despite the fact he had already signed a card authorizing passage of the sewer bill in the House.

A few hours after he issued this statement, Allen was back to his original position. This came about when his father, Clifford Allen Jr., county tax assessor, appeared on Capitol Hill and all pretenses were abandoned.

Up until that point, young Allen, publicly at least, had made his own decisions. But on the last day the man he affectionately calls "Doddy" took over openly.

Too Many Cooks . . .?

And the elder Allen wasn't the only man advising his son. City Councilman Aubrey Gillem, the council floor leader for Mayor Ben West, was another.

Thursday, for example, after the delegation had caucused, Allen received a phone call from Gillem at the delegation headquarters in the Hermitage Hotel.

Allen told Gillem he could not talk and to call him back at another room in the hotel. Allen then left the headquarters room and retired to a private room where he discussed the day's events with Gillem.

Other delegates recalled that a few weeks earlier, when young Allen and his father had created a crisis in the delegation by their refusal to agree on a Metro bill, young Allen made a triumphant appearance in City Council where he was greeted with applause.

Mayor West and most members of the council oppose Metro in favor of annexation. They all stand to lose their lucrative pension setups if Metro passes.

'Got 'em Squirming'

On that occasion when Allen visited City Council, he threw his arm around Gillem and said, "We've got them squirming now."

Several days later, as public protests mounted over the tactics used by the two Allens to block Metro, the elder Allen became ill and entered the hospital. There was some talk he had suffered another heart attack. But that proved false. Last Friday he appeared hale and hearty on Capitol Hill.

Pressure also caused the near collapse of Sen. Tom McGrath Thursday. McGrath who had obligated himself to firemen and policemen to the extent that he did not want to vote for any pension reforms, was put on the hot seat to make several decisions on pensions.

He finally had to be taken from the capitol and sent home. The next day he appeared in good shape as he sang to the Legislature in honor of St. Patrick.

Rep. Herbert Jones didn't let one commitment block him from making another opposite to the first.

Jones signed a pledge to support Metro. But when it came down to the wire, he was the only man to vote against it from this county.

Jones Steamrollered

However, the Legislature rodright over Jones and passed the private act anyway. This was considered a near miracle by many veteran Capitol Hill observers. Normally the Legislature will not override one member of a delegation.

Memphis tried the same thing Friday when one of its delegates would not go along with a bill. But the Memphis lawmakers could not muster the necessary 50 votes to pass their private act. It failed, 23-1 for lack of a constitutional majority. Davidson had mustered 60 votes two days earlier.

Jones demonstrated again Friday the difficulty of getting legislation passed when a lawmaker does think for himself.

After an 11th hour successful drive to get a city pension bill passed, the lawmakers attempted to salvage County Judge Beverly Briley's sewer district bill.

Jones had said on many occasions that he would support this bill. But when it reached the 12th hour he refused to sign the card that would have allowed the bill to pass.

Obligated to Contractor

While Judge Briley and members of the delegation waited for a decision, Jones talked over the telephone with a Davidson County contractor who had Jones' commitment to defeat the bill.

Despite all of this, however, the best example of lawmakers not being able to do their own thinking because they are committed to special groups came out during the last-minute pension hassle.

Firemen and police "watchdogs" stayed with the lawmakers day and night, not leaving them until the lawmakers went wearily home to bed.

They sat in the headquarters with the legislators and then trooped to the capitol with them to attend session.

When Rep. Charles Galbreath left the House chamber to get a drink of water, one of the firemen-police watchdog committeemen dutifully followed.

At the end, the firemen and police were the people who had to agree to pension reforms—not the legislators. Only when these handful of city employes gave their approval did the Davidson legislators pass any pension bills at all. If these employes had not approved, there would have been no pension bill passed.

Other Commitments

There were commitments the other way, too. Sen. Robert C. Taylor and Rep. F. Clay Bailey Jr. were committed to a Chamber of Commerce committee to stand firm against passing any pension bill that did not contain reforms.

The chamber was interested for fear that unless pension abuses were halted, taxes would have to be increased to pay the cost.

On the other side were Reps. Galbreath, Allen and Garner Robinson. Rep. W. P. Winter was not firmly committed either way. Neither was Rep. Thomas H. Shriver.

Winter wanted to raise the millage limit on the present pension so the 618 persons now on pensions could be paid.

Shriver was interested in working out a compromise that would allow pensions to be paid but at the same time would bring about some reforms, if not everything that he, Taylor and Bailey felt was needed.

Middle Ground Wins

This middle ground finally won out.

As a result of the weeks of arguing, switching sides and delays on the two most important issues before them — Metro and pensions—most Davidson County residents might tend to overlook the fact that the delegation got considerable work done.

Among other things they did were to:

- Safeguard the rights of county teachers in schools annexed by the city.
- Revamp the county pension plan to tie it in to Social Security.
- Authorize a public defender for Davidson County, if approved by referendum.
- Improve the procedures in the county tax assessor's office.
- Authorize City Council to increase appropriations to the general fund from 13 to 15 mills.

[illegible] at the legislature seek; analysis of the tax structures of the state and local governments; operations of boards of equalization, and proposed election of tax assessors by the courts rather than by popular vote; elimination of obsolete laws; alcoholism; residence requirements on voting, eligibility for pensions, state institutions, and other benefits of citizenship; problems of the mentally ill; the forestry laws; the problems of fixing insurance rates; the problem of compulsory inspection of motor vehicles, reexamination for drivers' licenses, and safety education; co-operation with the federal agency on water resources; and the continuing study of legislative procedures and methods of improvement.

The council will start the studies later in the year. Much of the work in detail will be done by the expert staff under Director Tom Johnson.

* * *

The Ultimate Failure

The lower house's ultimate failure to vote its membership the promised raise form the present $15 to a new $25 per diem (beating in 1963) ended the session on a lighter vein with a good chuckle.

"They must have re-evaluated themselves, and decided against inflation," a wag suggested.

The question has been raised from time to time whether the state has gained greatly by the increase of legislative pay from the old $6 per day to a more realistic $15 per day.

Stature of Legislators

The general conclusion is that there is yet no appreciable climb in the stature of legislators—many of the old $6 variety still coming year after year.

But there's little disagreement that even the $15 per day offers no great appeal to those who travel any distance and stay in Nashville, for the session.

Most members get away Thursday and don't return until Tuesday, thus reducing the session to a three-day work week with pay for seven days. But transportation costs on those weekends is that of the members and not the state.

tree

According to Rountree

Congressional Clown: Rep. William H. Ayres (R-Ohio) rides a tricycle through the White House at a reception given by President Kennedy for members of Congress Thursday. He brought the tricycle as a gift for the President's daughter, Caroline.

63 10:30

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Mohr

DATE: March 9, 1961

FROM : C.D. DeLoach

SUBJECT: SENATOR MILTON R. YOUNG (R-NDAK.)
INQUIRY RE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

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Senator Young called early this afternoon and in my absence spoke with Leinbaugh in my office. The Senator said that he and Mike Mansfield (D-Montana) had blasted the John Birch Society on the Senate Floor yesterday (UPI ticker attached), and the Senator said that frankly he had been amazed at the reaction. He said right after the speech he began to receive criticism from members of the Society and he had had several communications which alleged that Director Hoover had endorsed the John Birch group.

Leinbaugh told the Senator that this was a patent falsehood, that Director Hoover, of course, never endorsed any groups and most certainly would not issue any statement defending the activities of the John Birch Society. The Senator said he was relieved to hear this. He then added that members of this organization had informed him of the assertion that up to 80% of the top people in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare are communists or communist supporters and that Mr. Hoover was the source of information for this assertion. * The Senator was told that this ridiculous claim had already been brought to the Director's attention and it has been promptly nailed as a complete fabrication and falsehood.

Senator Young added that if at all possible he would deeply appreciate receiving a short note from Mr. Hoover regarding the above-mentioned matters and he was told we would be happy to comply with his request.

RECOMMENDATION:

That attached letter be forwarded to Senator Young.

Enclosures

1 - Mr. Parsons
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Jones
1 - [redacted]

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HPL:geg
(6)

* The October, 1959, edition of the "American Opinion" publication of the John Birch Society carried an article by R. P. Oliver which article contends that between 70% and 80% of the responsible officers in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare are members or accomplices of the communist conspiracy. (Memorandum attached)

62-104401-87

Done 3/10/61

advise by & send him copy of letter sent to Sen. Young

62 APR 13 1961

58 APR 11 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-2-80 BY

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UPI-133

(BIRCH SOCIETY)

WASHINGTON--SEN. MILTON R. YOUNG, R-N.D., AND SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER MIKE MANSFIELD, MONT., TODAY SOUGHT TO RALLY PUBLIC OPINION AGAINST THE ULTRA-CONSERVATIVE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY, WHOSE TOP OFFICIAL ACCUSED FORMER PRESIDENT EISENHOWER OF BEING A COMMUNIST AGENT.

IN SEPARATE SENATE SPEECHES, YOUNG AND MANSFIELD DEPLORED THE ORGANIZATION'S GROWING MEMBERSHIP IN THE DAKOTAS AND MONTANA, ALTHOUGH YOUNG QUOTED A (TIME) MAGAZINE ARTICLE AS REPORTING IT HAS ACTIVE "CELLS" IN MORE THAN 35 STATES. ONE NORTH DAKOTA CITY ALONE HAS FOUR CELLS, YOUNG SAID.

HE SAID THE SOCIETY'S MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES "SOME OF THE MOST ABLE AND INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN EACH COMMUNITY." ITS CRITICISM, HE SAID, IS LEVELED "NOT AGAINST LIBERAL PUBLIC OFFICIALS, BUT AGAINST MORE MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD, AND EVEN CONSERVATIVE, REPUBLICANS."

SOCIETY PRESIDENT ROBERT WELCH "HAS MADE ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE PRESIDENT AND OTHER TOP OFFICIALS FAR BEYOND ANYTHING THE LATE SEN. JOE MCCARTHY EVER THOUGHT OF," YOUNG SAID.

HE SUBMITTED AN ARTICLE FROM A CHICAGO NEWSPAPER (NEWS) IN WHICH WELCH'S BOOK, "THE POLITICIAN," WAS SAID TO HAVE TRIED TO PROVE THAT EISENHOWER "IS A CONSCIOUS, DEDICATED AGENT OF THE COMMUNISTS," AND HIS ADMINISTRATION "CONTROLLED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY."

MANSFIELD JOINED IN CRITICIZING THE ATTACK ON EISENHOWER, AND IN URGING THE PUBLIC TO "JUDGE THIS ORGANIZATION FOR WHAT IT IS."

YOUNG SAID THE SOCIETY HAS ACCUSED HIM "OF BEING ABOUT EVERY KIND OF SCOUNDREL, INCLUDING A COMMUNIST OR PRO-COMMUNIST."

3/8--GE302P

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62-104401-877

ENCLOSURE

62-104401-878

March 28, 1961

[redacted]

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Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 23, 1961, has been received, and I am pleased to learn that you are reading my book, "Masters of Deceit."

Although I would like to be of service in answering your inquiry, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your communication.

In view of your concern about the communist menace, I am enclosing some material which you might like to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
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Enclosures (5) Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Communist Target--Youth
An Analysis of the 17th National Convention of the CP, USA
Series from Christianity Today
NOTE: Bufiles contain no record on Sanders.
DWB:bew (3)

NOTE CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

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[redacted]

3-28-61 b6 b7C

NOTE CONTINUED: . . . The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anti-communist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

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[redacted]

March 23, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am at present reading your "Masters of Deceit" and am greatly concerned over the future of our country. I would appreciate your opinion of the John Birch Society, whose reputation has become questionable, and its tactics and method of combating communism. What organizations do you recommed for people who are interested in the welfare and the future of their country?

Thanking you in advance for any information you may give me, I am

Yours truly,

[redacted]

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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March 28, 1961

REC-47 62-104401-879

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 17, 1961, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry. I regret that we are unable to furnish any information concerning the publication about which you inquired in your communication. I would like to point out that I have not discussed the publication in question with the Honorable Milton R. Young.

Enclosed is some material dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
Director's speech of 10-18-60
Communist Target--Youth
Expost of Soviet Espionage
17th National Convention & 3-60 LEB Intro.
One Nation's Response To Communism

See NOTE nest page.

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NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401) No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. Welch's book, "The Politician," contains a vicious attack on President Eisenhower. No information concerning the publication is being afforded correspondent. Bufiles indicate that the Director wrote Senator Young 3-10-61. It is noted that the matter of "The Politician" was not discussed.

b6
b7C

March 17th, 1961.

J Edgar Hoover

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

The present controversy regarding "The Politician" by a Robert Welch prompts me to write this letter to you.

I was informed that you advised our Senator from North Dakota, Milt R. Young that "The Politician" was published and later withdrawn from circulation. It would be very kind of you Sir, if you would indicate the name of the publishing house which published the book and placed it in distribution. I am certain that with this information I can obtain a copy of the "The Politician"..

It would be very kind of you sir, to likewise advise me as to the loyalty of Welch's John Birch Society. There has been much discussion regarding it in the periodicals of late which would indicate seemingly that it could be a loyal group or a disloyal one. I am very much interested in anti-Communism and a study of the same but am fearful of associating with a subversive group, masquerading under the guise of Americanism

Your advice would be extremely helpful and appreciated. Thank you

Sincerely yours

REC- 47 62-104401-878

13 MAR 29 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-2-86

REC- 92 62 4401 880

March 27, 1961

[redacted]

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Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 20, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (3)
What You Can Do TO Fight Communism
Communism: Bitter Enemy of Religion
Expose of Soviet Espionage

see NOTE next page

JMM:efr* (3)

66 APR 4 1961

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NOTE: Bufiles contain no identifiable information re correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
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Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

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Malta, Montana
March 20, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Could you possibly tell me something about the John Birch Society which is supposedly an anti-communist organization ~~for the purpose of fighting~~ communism.

For the past several months people have been going through this part of Montana (and other states I imagine) signing people up, showing films and speaking about the good of the Society but I have been wondering if this might not be some sort of a communist "smoke-screen". What is the Bureau's feelings about this organization.

Sincerely,

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b7C

MAR 22 1961

REC- 92

62-104401-880

MAR 30 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

REC-92

881

March 28, 1961

[redacted]

b6
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Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 17, 1961, was received during the absence of Mr. Hoover from Washington, and I am acknowledging it for him. I know he will appreciate your generous comments.

With regard to your request, I must advise that our supply of the publication you mentioned is exhausted.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Gandy
Secretary

1 - Los Angeles - Enclosure

NOTE: No record was located in Bufiles concerning [redacted] In view of SAC Letter 61-14, 3-21-61, which states that no Bureau publications of any kind are to be made available to the John Birch Society or to any of its representatives, this in-absence reply is being sent. Correspondent implies that the "bookstore" is one associated with this Society. Last name of correspondent was verified in the telephone director; however, correspondent's initials could not be verified by telephone directory check.

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TRUE COPY

[redacted] b6 b7C

March 17, 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Just a word of encouragement and appreciation for the fine work you are doing for our country. Being a mere member of the John Birch Society which is under attack from our "liberal" friends I realize more clearly the difficulties and, yes, heartaches you have been through. I hope you will have strength and spirit to carry on.

We have a small book store in a nearby community carrying quite a bit of anti-communist literature and I should like to ask for 10 copies of your FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, March 1960, or other material that might help in the cause of a Free America. (They have your book)

With Sincere Best Wishes

/s/ [redacted] b6 b7C

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REC-92 62-104401-882

March 27, 1961

[redacted]

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Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 20, 1961, has been received, and I appreciate your interest in writing. The FBI prepared a detailed account of the tactics employed by the Communist Party, USA, in the California demonstrations, and I am enclosing a copy for your information. This publication is the only data on this matter which we have released.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure
Communist Target--Youth

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NOTE: No information identifiable with [redacted] was located in Bufiles. The John Birch Society was founded in 12-58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

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March 20, 1961

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Leach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

b6
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[redacted]

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

There is an extremely active growing group in our community known as the John Birch Society. Nominally they claim to be fighting Communism in America. In my judgment, they seem to be doing the following things in the order of emphasis given:

1. Collecting substantial dues.

2. Making wild statements in regard to the immediate danger of a communist internal takeover in America. These include calling some of our most conservative citizens and groups Communists and Communist dupes. The purpose seems to be to frighten people into joining and into continuing their contributions to the organization.

The John Birch Society members have recently deluged the local press with quotations from you stating that the student riots against the House Un-American Activities Committee in San Fransisco were "led by known and nameable Communists". As an American citizen, I believe I am entitled to an answer to the following two questions:

1. Did you make such a statement?

2. If so, why have not such Communists been indicted for inciting to riot?

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

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[redacted]

REC-92

62-104401-887

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3-27-61

REC-11 EX-114 62-104401-883

March 28, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

I have received your letter, with enclosures, of March 17, 1961, and the interest which has prompted you to communicate with me on this occasion is indeed appreciated.

For your information, the FBI, being an investigative agency, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you on this occasion, and I hope you will not infer either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry. I am sure, from the foregoing, that you will realize that it could not have been possible for a representative of the FBI to have made the statements you mentioned.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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Ingram
Gandy

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of the correspondent. Although Bufiles have not been searched for the various individuals, organizations and books mentioned by the correspondent, it should be noted that the John Birch Society was founded in 1958 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts is allegedly anti-communist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower.

JMM:pak (3)

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Derbach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
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Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

March 17, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover — COMMUNISM
Federal Bureau of Investigation — A DISEASE PAMPHLET

Dear Sir;

Several months ago my husband and I joined an anti-communist organization, The John Birch Society, here in Phoenix, Arizona. We felt like this organization was really doing something worth while in combating communism. We have had the utmost respect for the leader Robert Welch. While we realize that any group actively fighting them will be smeared or called names we are quite concerned over a statement we heard last evening. The statement made was that "the F.B.I. did not approve of the John Birch Society because it was too radical" and that "Mr. J. Edgar Hoover did not like or approve of Mr. Robert Welch."

My husband and several others in our chapter of the Society, have bought and are showing nightly "Communism on the Map" and also "Operation Abolition." We have purchased many copies of "Masters of Deceit" and sold them or given them away.

We are giving of our time and money to this organization and would like to think we have been on the right track. If the statements I mentioned earlier are true please send me any information you can regarding this society. I would be very grateful for any advice you'd care to give us.

Sincerely,

/s/ [redacted]

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10 MAR 30 1961

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Magazines

✓ American Opinion, Belmont 78, Massachusetts	5.00
✓ National Review, 211 E. 37th St., New York 16, N. Y.	15.00
The Tablet, 1 Hanson Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.	4.00
✓ Christian Crusade, Tulsa 2, Oklahoma	1.00

Books

✓* The Naked Communist - Skousen	5.00
✓* You Can Trust the Communists - Schwarz	3.00
✓ Witness - Chambers	2.95
✓ Masters of Deceit - Hoover	.50 or 5.00
✓* American Might and the Soviet Myth - Campaigne	3.95
✓ Collectivism in the Churches - Bundy	5.00
✓ Brainwashing in the Highschools - Root	4.50
The United Nations, Planned Tyranny - Watts	3.00
Wedemeyer Reports - Wedemeyer	6.00
The Cry is Peace - Bundenz	3.75
Conquest of the American Mind - Wittmer	5.00
The Decline of the American Republic - Flynn	3.00
✓ The Pentagon Case - Fox	2.00
✓ Behind the U. N. Front - Widener	2.00
✓ NINE MEN AGAINST AMERICA - GORDON	

Organizations

* The John Birch Society, Belmont 78, Massachusetts

The Cardinal Mindszenty Foundation, 7510 Delmar Blvd., St. Louis 5, Missouri

* The Christian Anti-Communism Crusade, Box 890, Long Beach, California

This is the list of books & publications we recommend - Any comment will be appreciated. I have checked the ones I have read & subscribe too -

62-104401-883

1 ENCLOSURE

COMMUNISM — A DISEASE

by Fred Schwarz, M.D.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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62-104401-883

ENCLOSURE 2

The Author

Dr. Fred C. Schwarz, Australian Physician and Surgeon, began in 1950 to alert the free world as to the designs of The Communist Conspiracy. In 1953 the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade was formed with a fine Board of Directors. With him now is a fine staff and hundreds of supporters. The CRUSADE is a non-profit, tax-deductible organization which fights Communism at many levels through education, information, evangelism, and dedication.

This is accomplished with—Anti-Communism Schools—Seminars and Clinics—Neighborhood Study Groups — Radio Tapes and Films—Literature Distribution—International Programs providing dedicated Nationals with knowledge and tools—Lectures in Churches, Schools, Clubs, Military and Civic Groups.

Personalized

You may procure these pamphlets with your advertisement on back cover—$12.50 per 1,000 postpaid. $2.00 per 100 reg. cover.

Order From

Christian Anti-Communism Crusade
P. O. Box 6422, Houston 6, Texas

COMMUNISM—A Disease

Address given by Dr. Fred Schwarz of Sydney, Australia, before the combined Houses of the Texas Legislature

Reprinted from the House Journal, Fifty-Sixth Legislature, Regular Session Austitn, Texas, March 25, 1959

Dr. Fred Schwarz was escorted to the Speaker's rostrum by a Committee of five Members of the House of Representatives.

Speaker Carr presented Honorable Robert Hughes of Dallas County who introduced Dr. Schwarz to the House with the following words—

Mr. Speaker, Members of the House and Distinguished Guests:

Today it is with great pleasure that I have an opportunity to present to you a distinguished gentleman, doctor and lecturer. This man is from Australia. He is a medical doctor who, some years ago, left his profession because

he learned, first hand, of the dangers of the Communist Ideology. He has spent the time since then going all over the world to bring this danger to the attention of everyone who comes within the scope of his magnetic personality. He has addressed the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the National War College, Central Intelligence Agency, Congressional Committees, and many other organizations and groups who have come to recognize him as an authority on this subject, and I think that this House will do well to heed the message brought to us this morning by Dr. Fred Schwarz of Australia. I give you Dr. Schawrz.

(Dr. Schwarz then addressed the House as follows)

Mr. Speaker, Representatives and Guests of the State of Texas:

You can confer few greater honors upon a citizen of Australia than the one you have conferred upon me today; the privilege of speaking to the representatves of your vast, uniquely generous, and hospitable, sovereign State of Texas.

I am, by profession, a physician and a surgeon; concerned with the preservation of health and life. Communism has already killed many millions of people and proposes to kill many millions more. Therefore, by definition, it is a disease.

It is a three-fold disease. It is a disease of the body, because it kills; a disease of the mind, because it is associated with systematized delusions not susceptible to rational argument; and a disease of the spirit because it denies God, materializes man, robs him of spirit and soul, and in the last analysis, even of mind itself and reduces him to the level of a beast of the field.

The disease of Communism is making fast epidemic progress and we are confronted, not merely with the possibility, but with the probability that at present rates of expansion, within a generation it will have consumed the entire Earth.

The most essential feature in the treatment of any disease is accurate

diagnosis. We have a saying in the medical profession: "It is better to have the right operation done poorly than the wrong operation done very well." If the trouble is in the appendix, you can gather the world's outstanding surgeon and he can admit you to the very finest hospital, gather together superb assistants in nursing and anesthesiology and together they can do a perfect operation to remove your gall bladder. That operation may be the very finest ever performed, but it does suffer from the minor disadvantage--it will not cure your original appendicitis.

It is quite obvious that our treatment of Communism is a colossal failure!

The enemy advances from strength to strength. The free world retreats. The area of freedom continually shrinks. Every move that we make is apparently unable to halt this advancing force! I would like to ask the question: Is it possible that our failure in this struggle has rested upon an inaccurate diagnosis? If we diagnose wrongly we

are certain to treat ineffectively. What is Communism?

I am a salesman of a very simple idea. This idea I find very difficult to sell, and I have never been able to understand why. It is no hard to sell the idea that the football team desires to make touchdowns, that the library has books in it and not groceries; that the hen lays eggs and not grapefruit. But I find it tremendously difficult to sell the idea that the Communists are Communists; that they believe what they say they believe; that their organization is the organization they outline; that their objectives are the objectives they proudly proclaim. Once we take the simple step of acknowledging that the Communists are precisely what they say they are, the entire mystery vanishes, and their entire program derives a purposeful integrated unity that is not only comprehensible, but is almost mathematically predictable.

Nikita Khrushchev recently said "anyone who thinks we have forsaken Marxism-Leninism is crazy. That won't

happen until shrimp learn to whistle!" What is Marxism-Leninism? It is vitally important that we should understand *precisely what this alleged science is.*

To put it very briefly, Marxism-Leninism teaches that there is no God; that men and women are animals devoid of soul, spirit, significant individual value and continuity of life, and that the human animal species has been divided by its *economic environment* into warring classes and that the basic dynamic of capitalist society is a state of war which Marx called the "class war." The basic doctrine of Marxism-Leninism is simply this: War is universal. This war is between the two classes—the proletariat and the bourgeoisie, as they were originally called. The proletariat allegedly represented the class of labor; the bourgeoisie represented the class of property ownership. Between these two there is a permanent, truceless state of warfare.

Now according to the Communist theory of Marxism-Leninism the class of property ownership controls the state

government. You gentlemen and ladies represent, according to Communist theory, the mechanism by which the bourgeoisie enslaves and exploits the working class. On the other hand the proletariat generates its higher command, the Communist Party. This war manifests itself as war between the Communist Party and the government. Now according to Marxism-Leninism, the Communists did not declare this war; they did not even necessarily desire it. They simply recognized it and recognized their historic duty to consummate it in victory. Originally this war is within a state manifesting itself as war between the Communist Party and the Government. With the progress of history, Communism has come to power in the name of the proletariat, in Russia, in China, in Eastern Europe; the bourgeoisie remains in power in America and in associated countries. Therefore the class war has transferred itself from the national to the international plane. The fundamental doctrine of Marxism-Leninism is that Russia and America are at war; that China

and America are at war. The war is universal, truceless. It embaces every facet of human life. The weapons of this war are multiple not merely the traditional weapon of guns and bombs and military science. Trade, language, cultural interchange, sports, arts, education and religion — everything is a weapon in this class warfare. War is universal!

Since the basic Communist doctrine is that Russia and America are at War, what do they mean when they talk about "peace"? There is no word in the Communist lexicon used more frequntly than the word "peace." Wherever Communists are gahered you find the word "peace" displayed. They have "Peace" movements, "Peace" prizes, "Peace" festivals—the dove of Peace is their symbol.

Now since war is the present state of being what is "Peace"? Most of you think the Communists are hypocrites, that they do not genuinely desire peace. With that I cannot agree. If you took a Communist and gave him a lie detector

test and asked him if he desired peace with all his heart, he'd pass it with flying colors. They live for peace; they long for peace; they yearn for peace. Peace is the golden day of their dreams; the fuffillment of the yearning of their hearts. But what is "Peace"?

During the war against Germany and Japan didn't you long for peace? When I ask normal American citizens if they desired peace, invariably the answer is that they yearned for peace with their whole heart. I ask "What was peace?" They say "Oh, the end of hostilities." I ask, 'Do you include the end of hostilities in enemy vicotry?" They reply, "Oh, no we had to win it." Peace, by deffinition was the end of the war in American victoy, not in defeat. The Communists believe that they are the historically ordained class that is to consummate this class war in world Communist victory. By definition peace is: Communist world conquest. Since peace is Communist conquest, every act that ministers to Communist conquest is peaceful. If they

shoot you, they take a peaceful gun; they put a peaceful bullet in your warlike brain; they give you a peaceful death, and they bury you in a peaceful grave. When the armies of the Communist Chinese advanced with tanks and guns and bombs and bayonets, littering the field with dead, it is the advance of the forces of Peace. Peace is wonderful. When Khrushchev ordered the Russian tanks into Budapest to fire into the apartment buildings reducing them to rubble, entombing men, women and children, in his heart he was confident that he was consummating "glorious" peace.

The Communists can use the word "peace" with total sincerity in their own sense. We interpret it in our sense. And we are the pathetic victims of their deceit. The Communists are not hypocrites. If they were hypocrites our task would be infinitely simpler. A hypocrite can make a bargain; a hypocrite can be appeased. The Communists are so totally committed to their program of World Conquest, so totally

committed to the concept of the universality of class war, that they have crossed the borderline of sanity and we are dealing with paranoic mentality beyond the reach of logic and reasonable appeal.

This class war is universal. From it every term derives its definition. Lenin proudly proclaimed that Communist morality is related to the class struggle —there is no such thing as good—there is no such thing as evil—there is no such thing as truth—there is no such thing as falsehood. Proletarian good is that which ministers to Communist World Victory. Any act that assists Communist Conquest is by definition "good." Any act that advances Communist World Triumph is by definition "peaceful." And any statement that advances World Communist Conquest is by definition "true."

The Communist never tell lies in the interest of Communism. If a statement is in the interest of Communist advance by definition it is the 'truth."

Here is an example of the Communist truth—proletarian truth—with which they are deluging the world. This is a magazine put out in English by North Korea. The major part of it is given over to an alleged record of achievement by Communism in North Korea. As we near the end, we have a page entitled "Massacre Committed by American Brutes." On this page there are six photographs of bodies taken from a mass grave and the weeping relatives of the victims. Now the truth—what they call the bourgeois truth is this: When the Communists retreated in North Korea before the advance of General MacArthur, they took with them all able-bodied personnel. But those who belonged to the untrustworthy class and who could not stand the rigors of the northward journey, they simply massacred and put the bodies into mass graves. These included old men, pregnant women, mothers of very young children, etc. They have desinterred one of their own mass graves and are accusing the Americans of this crime. Listen to what they write:

"Mankind remembers the shocking atrocities the Hitlerites perpetrated in the concentration camps in Majdanek and Oswiencim.

"Recently another case of atrocities by the American murderers which exceeds in its cruelty the atrocities by the Hitlerites was discovered in Korea.

"In a shaft of the Rakyun Mine, Jangyun County, South Hwanghai Province, some 800 dead bodies were discovered.

"During their temporary occupation of Jangyun County during the Korean War, the American murderers rounded up miners of the Rakyun mine and the peasants in the nearby villages and put them through severe torture. Then the American devils kicked the tortured miners and peasants into the shaft 100 meters deep.

"In the shaft corpses were piled up on top of one another, and the torn pieces of the bodies bore bullet holes and scars made by the bayonets. Many mothers had their babies tied on their

backs. The shaft presented a most gruesome scene.

"Honest-minded people can not but hate and condemn the American Imperialist murderers whose lust for blood knows no end.

"Funeral services for the murdered took place in the Rakyun mine in the midst of children's crying for their lost fathers, old women wailing over their dead sons. The people's enmity and curses upon the American devils rent the air. 'Avenge us of the American imperialists.' This was the cry of the 800 murdered.

"But even at the moment in South Korea, the American murderers are slaughtering our brothers and sisters. This we can not tolerate.

"American cannibals, get out of Korea immediately."

Tell a lie, make it big, repeat it often, and the majority of people will believe you. It was Hitler who said this. The Communists have translated that concept into a vast science of

proletarian truth. The tragedy is this: 100 people in the uncommitted areas of the world will see and believe this evil lie, for every one that reads and hears the true story of the shooting down of the unarmed American Transport Plane over Soviet Armenia by the Communist fighter planes.

Be not deceived—evil communications corrupt good manners. When we realize the vast distribution of this literature in every country of the World, we get a little insight into why the American Vice-President and his wife were stoned and spat upon South of the Border, why the American Embassy personnel recently had to flee in Bolivia from raging mobs. The harvest of Communist lies is being reaped and frankly, the apparent program of the free world, which seems to be to provide electric light in these backward countries so that the Communist literature can be read, scarcely makes sense to me. The Communist programs go on ceaselessly. Everything is a weapon. Communist ideology crowns the ugliest and

most evil of characters and acts with garments of virtue and beauty.

Never was this brought out so effectively as in Khrushchev's speech on Joseph Stalin. Khrushchev revealed much about Stalin in that speech, but he revealed a great deal also about Khrushchev. Most people missed its point entirely. They think that Khrushchev condemned Stalin. He did nothing of the sort! He depicted Stalin and finally commended him. Khrushchev said in effect, "Stalin was a murderer; he was not a reluctant murderer, but an enthusiastic murderer. He enjoyed murder. He got a thrill out of the torture of his own friends. When the Jewish doctors were arrested and accused of poisoning Zdanov, the Communist leader, Stalin called in the man responsible for examining them and indicated the type of torture to be given to each one. He gave three fundamental rules for getting the confessions: "Beat, beat, and beat again." He said, "If you don't get a confession by this date, we will shorten you by a head."

Khrushchev indicated Stalin was a stark, raving, madman. "When you went in to see him in the morning, he would look at you and say, 'What have you been up to? You've got a shifty look in your eye today.' You never knew whether you would leave as his friend or under armed guard to be shot." Then he finalizes as follows, "Don't misunderstand me. Stalin was a good man. He was a Marxist-Lininist. He did these things as a Marxist-Leninist." In the class morality of Marxim - Leninism Stalin's personal individual idiosyncracies were immaterial. Stalin is the man who set up the educational program in Russia which today is graduating three times as many engineers and scientists as America, and, when their China program matures, will gradute ten times as many. Stalin is the man who set up their submarine program that has brought the shadow of impening doom over the lives of every one of us from missiles launched from the Gulf of Mexico; Stalin set up their scientific program; Stalin organized the conquest of China; Stalin organized

the infiltration of every institution of American life. Stalin deceived the American and free world statesmen; Stalin brought them to the very eve of World Conquest.

A few generations hence when Communism has triumphed and man is being remolded according to the Communist goal and universal hapiness covers the earth the name of Stalin will be honored and revered.

The tragedy of Communism is not merely that it murders; it makes murder a moral and a righteous act. When they deny the foundation of civilization, our Christian heritage; when they deny God, and His creative and redemptive love; they destroy the very foundations on which our individual value is built In its place, the cold scientific morality of mathematical statistics emerges.

When the Communists have conquered the world, they will be left with the residual capitalist classes whom it is their duty to destroy. This is their proletarian moral duty.

A few years back the American Communist party would openly acknowledge that having conquered this land, they would need to put to death one third of the American people. This is not an act of punishment; neither is it an act of revenge — it is the fulfillment of Marxism-Leninism. An act whereby the surgeon takes the scapel to cut away the diseased social tissue that the new and Communistically perfect may come to glorious flower.

We are living in an era of great danger, of vast peril; an era when the very future of our children is desperately menaced.

Communism is the literal fulfillment of Psalm XIV. "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works. There is none that doeth good." Emerging from this bottomless pit of Godless materialism, captivating by a glamorous vision of a regenerate mankind, utilizing the perverted religious fervor of youth, and every scientific method, this torrent is sweeping the

Earth, and Freedom stands menaced and home and children stand in mortal peril, and the challenge to every one of us is this: "What contribution can I make that tyranny may not triumph and liberty may not perish from the Earth?"

I submit that to every individual motivated by love of Freedom, Christian philosophy, dedication to home and family, and love of country, every other issue has become secondary. The simple question is: How can we mobilize every spiritual, ideological, and moral force we have to halt this Communist advance across the earth?

The Communists say that victory is certain—certain for this reason: "We are the product of our economic society. Capitalism is in its dying stages. It has created us without survival value. We are so selfish; so shortsighted; so intoxicated with entertainment; so consumed with our own immediate, personal objectives we will never have the honesty and intelligence to understand the evidence, or the courage and dedication to do what is necessary to survive."

Is your life; is my life; an argument for or against the accuracy of that Communist thesis? As the great men and wonderful women of your fine country come face to face with these dangers, you have the unique responsibility to lay the foundation on which liberty shall triumph and tyranny shall fail.

I would like to finish with this poem:

Where the northern ocean darkens,
  Where the rolling rivers run
Past the cold and empty headlands
  Toward the slow and westering sun,
There our fathers long before us,
  Armed with Freedom faced the deep
What they built with love and labor
  Let their children watch and keep.

By our dark and dreaming forests,
  By our clear and shining skies,
By our green and ripening prairies,
  Where the Western mountains rise,
God who gave our fathers freedom,
  God who made our fathers brave
What they built with love and anguish
  Let their children watch and save.

Thank you very much for this great opportunity. God bless you all.

REC-112 62-104491-384

March 29, 1961

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 21, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 29 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
The Communists Are After Our Minds
One Nation's Response To Communism
Exposé of Soviet Espionage
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Intro

see NOTE next page

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
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Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

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62 APR 4 1961

SAW:lcl* (3)

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Letter to [redacted]

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NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. [redacted] is well known to the Portland Office. He broadcast a strongly anticommunist program on radio station KPDQ and sells numerous pamphlets and holds periodic meetings in Portland and Salem. He sponsors the Freedom Crusade, and postal authorities in March, 1960, were questioning the legitimacy of the non-profit organization mailing permit used by his group. The Portland Office has had several complaints about the violent nature of publications disseminated by this group. [redacted]

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"Great Decisions" is sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association (FPA). We have not conducted an investigation regarding the FPA. Its alleged purpose is to carry on research to aid in the understanding of the foreign policy of the United States. During the summer of 1960 a Fulton County, Georgia, Grand Jury handed down two presentments against FPA's operations in Atlanta. We have had numerous citizen inquiries relating to FPA and our replies have been generally that it has not been investigated by the FBI; therefore, no comment could be made regarding it. It is believed, however, that the above reply is more appropriate in view of the controversial nature of the FPA. A recent issue of "The Tablet" claimed that the FPA was aiding communism. This article pointed out that [redacted] was connected with the organization and that another frequent contributor was Emil Lengyel. [redacted] was the subject of a Bureau investigation which was discontinued in 1955. She has been described as pro-Russian, procommunist, and apologist for the Soviet Union. Dr. Emil Lengyel has been the subject of prior Bureau investigations and has been active in communist front activities.

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[redacted]

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3/21/61

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Attn: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I would appreciate your help. I am enclosing two articles on two different anti- communistic organizations. Both seem to be under some suspicion as to their true nature.

Is it possible for your office to let me know if they are communistic inspired or supported?

It is frightening to the average citizen to know what organizations to support to fight Communism and yet we must do something to combat it.

I will appreciate your advise.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

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ENCLOSURE (Clipping)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-2-86 BY [illegible]

REC 112 62-104401-884

12 MAR 31 1961

P.S. Do you have any information on "Great Decisions" which is on TV and thru study courses. Thank you. [redacted]

Name Confusion Suggests Freedom Crusade Change

By WILMA MORRISON

"Freedom Crusade," the name of the evangelical anti-Communist group headed in Portland by Walter Huss, will be changed.

Huss announced a contest to select a new name to an audience of about 200 persons who turned out Sunday afternoon at Franklin high school to launch his previously announced "Freedom School."

He referred to recent news reports of his troubles in getting permission from the city to conduct an $80,000 fund drive, and said the name change "is fostered by certain forces being put upon us."

He said, "Legally we don't have to (change the name). We can retain it until Jesus comes."

Along with questions raised about the goals and methods of the Freedom Crusade movement here, there have been protests that the similarity of the name with that of the Crusade for Freedom is misleading. The Crusade for Freedom is the agency that conducts Radio Free Europe.

Huss blamed the protests on forces "working against us" and added: "We would like to own the newspapers. We wish we could own the radio and television stations. Then, perhaps, we could give the people the things that would help us."

Speaker at the Sunday meeting was W. Cleon Skousen from Salt Lake City, an attorney and a former FBI agent who is now field director for a private investigation and information agency, the American Security Council. It is supported by fees from member businesses. Skousen's brother, Leroy B. Skousen, is the Portland attorney for Huss and his Freedom Crusade movement.

Huss's request to Portland's solicitations commission for a license to conduct an $80,000 fund drive was held up when officials of the Oregon Council of Churches protested what were said to be inflammatory attacks circulated by the Freedom Crusade organization against the council, its member congregations and other agencies including the World Affairs council.

Huss was asked by the city council to bring in articles of incorporation and bylaws. The articles of incorporation were submitted to the council last week and referred back to the solicitations commission for decision.

The Freedom School "classes," as distinguished from the night "rallies," will be held through Saturday, March 25, daily beginning at 9:30 a.m., in the U.S. Plywood Room of the Memorial Coliseum. Climax of the week's program will be a rally Sunday, March 26, at 3 p.m. at Benson high school auditorium.

Some of the speakers scheduled to appear during the week are Robert C. Morris, president of University of Dallas, Texas, former chief counsel for the senate internal security subcommittee; Howard Kershner, editor of an eastern publication, "Christian Economics," and author of one of the books and pamphlets displayed at the Freedom School Sunday, "God, Gold and Government."

Others on the program are Capt. Richard E. Barnes, retired navy captain who represents the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade organization headed by Dr. Fred Schwarz, with headquarters in California and offices in Houston, Texas; Donald Jackson, former congressman from Southern California and member of the house committee on un-American activities; Lt. Comdr. William Deller, Everett, Wash., speaker on Americanism and anti-communism; Dr. Tirso Del Junco, American Board of Surgeons, educated in Cuba; Rev. Leslie Millin, head of Freedom Foundation of Canada; Fred W. Beuchner, west coast manager of Walston & Co., San Francisco, columnist for North American Newspaper Alliance.

Financing of the Portland "Freedom School" is by a $10 adult registration fee and offerings taken at the rallies, Huss said.

In answer to questions, Huss told The Portland Reporter there are other "Freedom Schools" being held around the country sponsored by other organizations and by local groups, some calling for fees of as much as $75 for two days. The name "Freedom School" is "not so much a name word as it is an adjective," he said. "It simply indicates the type of school it is."

Of his own activities and those of his organization, he said "We conduct seminars wherever people are interested." He said he goes into a town, spends one or more days, appears before volunteer groups and in churches.

Then material is supplied to local leaders. For example, the current "Freedom School" speeches and class instructions will be taped and made available for use elsewhere, he said.

The Portland "Freedom Crusade," he said, is not an organizational part of a structural national organization. The appearance of speakers on his "Freedom School" program here and also on the programs and in the literature used by other "schools" and movements, such as the John Birch society, James Hargis' Christian Crusade Rally, the Christian Anti-Communist Crusade, and others, he said, derives from their common purpose—alerting citizens to the necessity of a grass-roots fight against Communist infiltration.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-2-86 BY [illegible]

62-104401-884

ENCLOSURE

Birch Group's Red Charges Termed Fabric of Falsehood

SANTA BARBARA, Cal. (AP) —The chief executive officer of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., says that the John Birch society is waging "campaigns of falsehoods against the church."

Dr. Eugene Carson Blake said the extreme right-wing organization is engaged in a plan to smear leaders of the Presbyterian church and the National Council of Churches as being sympathetic to communism.

He called this "bearing false witness." The Los Angeles churchman, the Presbyterians' stated clerk, told members of the Presbyterian church of Santa Barbara:

"I challenge this congregation to wake up to what is happening to you under the guise of anti-communism. A free church with a free pulpit governed under constitutional law, along with a free nation under a free constitution, is the best resistance there could be against Communist totalitarianism.

"Don't let your Americanism and your Presbyterianism be corrupted by those who would substitute a fuhrer principal for our free society."

The John Birch society, named for a missionary killed by the Chinese Communists, is a group which claims to fight Communist infiltration. Among prominent U.S. citizens it has termed to be Communist dupes are former U.S. president Dwight D. Eisenhower, Harry Truman and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

REC-90 62-104401-885

March 29, 1961

[redacted]

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b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 22, 1961, has been received.

The FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and does not evaluate or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of organizations, publications or individuals. In view of this, I can assure you that the statement you quoted was not made by a representative of this Bureau.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 29 1961
COMM-FBI

1 - Memphis - Enclosure

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NOTE: Bufiles contain no record on [redacted] The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

62 APR 4 1961

March 22, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As a new member of the John Birch Society, I have been amazed by a recent article in The Nashville Tennessean which twisted the intentions of the Society until an unknowing reader would believe we were Fascist, Radicals and were using the Society for financial gains; which is not the least bit true.

The most damaging part of the article quoted a FBI spokesman as saying the John Birch Society was "irresponsible but not subversive", and that many anti-communists are tied in with the society for the purpose of making money through speeches.

Mr. Hoover, if the above statement was made by one of your spokesman, and if it be true, then I would appreciate your acknowledging this fact. If this statement was not made or was misquoted, you will be doing us a great service by setting the records straight.

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REC-90 62-104401-5

MAR 30 1961

EX-108

CORRESPONDENCE

ack 3/29/61
DWB/mjp
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3/28/61
mjp

March 28, 1961

REC- 66 62-104401-886

[redacted]

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Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 21, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In the light of the foregoing, I can assure you that no FBI representative made the statement to which you refer in your communication.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED 2
MAR 29 1961
COMM-FBI

MAILED 4
MAR 30 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (4)

Series from Christianity Today
One Nation's Response to Communism
17th National Convention CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. Enclosure was an article regarding the John Birch Society which contained information that an FBI spokesman in Washington had stated that

SEE NEXT PAGE

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51 APR 6 1961

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RWE:nss (3)

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the group was irresponsible but not subversive.

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

TRUE COPY

b6
b7C

[redacted]

March 21, 1961.

The Hon. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation -
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I enclose an article from the Nashville Tennessean of March 19, 1961. Can you tell me if this article is accurate in its summary of the position of the F. B. I. on the John Birch Society?

With kind regards to you, I am, Sir,

Yours very truly,

/s/ [redacted]

b6
b7C

REC- 66 62-104401-886

EX 101

12 MAR 31 1961

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

ack: 3-24-61
RWE:mse

ENCLOSURE

True Copy
3/24/61
GJR

8-PUB

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-2-86 BY SP MacMRE

Birch Society Has 200 Members Here

By PAT ANDERSON

THE John Birch Society, an organization whose founder considers both Dwight D. Eisenhower and Franklin D. Roosevelt traitors, now claims more than 200 members in Nashville.

These members, many of whom are widely-known, well-educated and conservative, agree in varying degrees with the more controversial political judgments of Robert Welch, the Massachusetts businessman who founded the Society in 1958.

But they apparently accept Welch's stern warning that they have only two choices—to accept his leadership or "in a very few years you will, by force, be devoting all is the maintenance of a Communist slave state."

Most local members would agree with Macon P. Davis Jr., an attorney and former state legislator, who said last week:

"I have been alarmed about the successes Communism has had, and I felt the Society was doing something to counteract their successes."

Education Program

To combat Communism, the Society has launched an educational program, said one local leader, businessman Horton Early. It encourages political discussion among its members. It distributes such books as J. Edgar Hoover's "Masters of Deceit" and Sen. Joe McCarthy's "America's Retreat From Victory" and such films as "Communism on the Map" and "Operation Abolition."

"The John Birch Society is for less big government, freedom of the individual to work and worship where he pleases and a better world," Early said.

Despite these avowed goals, with which few Americans would differ, the Society has received an increasing amount of criticism, not only in Nashville but nationally:

● An FBI spokesman in Washington said last week the FBI has been "looking into" activities of the society. He said based on what it knows, the FBI would characterize the society as "irresponsible but not subversive." He said many professional anti-Communists are tied in with the society for the purpose of making money through speeches.

● U.S. Sen. Milton R. Young (Rep.-N.D.) laid the Barnett Welch "has made accusations against the former President of the United States far beyond anything the late Sen. Joe McCarthy even thought of." He added "To label some of our most loyal and dedicated people as Communists plays right into the hands of the Communists."

● National news analyst Eric Sevareid called the Society "Main Street McCarthyism" and said its members "cannot understand that their own leaders are not conservatives but anti-Constitutional radicals."

● A politically conservative Vanderbilt University professor said he found in Welch's writings "elements of Fascism."

Sharpest Criticism

The sharpest criticism of the Society has been directed at the political opinions Welch has expressed in his two books "The Blue Book" and "The Politician."

In "The Blue Book," which originally was a speech Welch made while organizing the Society, he said:

● President Roosevelt and Gen. George Marshall were guilty of "plain unadulterated treason" in getting America into World War II.

● President John F. Kennedy (then a Senator) was Walter Heather's "stooge," the late Russian poet-novelist Boris Pasternak was a Communist "stooge," Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes was "that eternal sophomore."

● "I think Nelson Rockefeller is definitely committed to trying to make the United States a part of a one-world socialist government, while I don't think Nixon is committed to anything other than the career of Richard Nixon."

● America's press radio and television are dominated by "Communist influences."

● Democracy is "merely a deceptive phrase, a weapon of demagoguery and a perennial fraud."

Real Bombshells

But Welch's real bombshells are in "The Politician," a privately circulated, 300-page manifesto which became public last summer when a Society member "betrayed" Welch by showing it to a Chicago newspaperman. Welch at the time was in Chicago supporting Sen. Barry Goldwater's drive for the Republican presidential nomination.

The following is a direct quotation from "The Politician":

"While I too think that Milton Eisenhower is a Communist and has been for 30 years this opinion is based largely on general circumstances of his conduct. But my firm belief that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy is based on an accumulation of detailed evidence so extensive and so palpable that it seems to me to put this conviction beyond any reasonable doubt."

Welch further writes of Eisenhower ". . . there is only one possible word to describe his purposes and actions. That word is treason."

Among Society members here, "The Politician" is a touchy subject. Early, who said he has read it, declares:

"The Politician" has nothing to do with the John Birch Society. It was written before the Society was founded. It expresses personal opinions which have nothing to do with the Society."

Caused Resignation

But it was "The Politician" which caused the Society's first major set-back in this area — the resignation of the entire Franklin, Tenn. chapter.

The story of the Franklin chapter's shortlived activities was related last week by a leading businessman who was active in the chapter. He asked that his name not be used because Early and other Nashville members are his personal friends.

The Franklin chapter was founded last May. Among its members were some of Franklin's best-known citizens. They considered the Society an educational forum. At one meeting a member reviewed Hoover's "Masters of Deceit." At another meeting a member presented a paper on foreign aid, which Welch opposes.

Then in the fall, the members read about "The Politician." They wrote Welch asking for two copies of the book. The copies arrived and were circulated among the chapter members. In October the chapter agreed formally to disband. They later received a letter from Welch saying they would want back in when things get worse.

'Lot of Good'

"I think the Society has done a lot of good by encouraging people to learn about communism," the Franklin man said. "I know my friends in it in Nashville are sincere and patriotic.

"But we found there was a sharp difference between Welch's opinions and our opinions and we got out. We couldn't draw a line between Robert Welch, the author of 'The Politician,' and Robert Welch, the founder of the John Birch Society."

On "The Blue Book," Welch says the Society "is to be a monolithic body" which "will operate under completely authoritative control at all levels."

People will join the Society, he says, "because they believe in me and what I am doing and are willing to accept my leadership anyway."

Don't Always Agree

But leaders here say they do not always agree with Welch.

"I don't know anyone I agree with 100 per cent," Early said. "But if I didn't agree with Welch on most issues I wouldn't stay in the Society."

Early said he approves the Society's current national drive to bring about the impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren.

"A lot of people who thought it was silly when they first heard about it may be surprised before long," he said of the impeachment campaign.

He also was strongly critical of the political views of a Vanderbilt University professor, Dr. Avery Leiserson, who recently participated in a debate on the House Un-American Activities Committee with a Society chapter leader, William Burton Jr., at the Westminster House, a Presbyterian student center at Vanderbilt.

Editor Attends Debate

Thomas J. Anderson, editor of Farm & Ranch Magazine and a member of the Society's national council, attended this debate. When Leiserson was giving his views on the House Un-American Activities Committee, Anderson rose to his feet and shouted, according to witnesses:

"I resent that and I resent you."

The student moderator of the debate told Anderson he would have an opportunity to speak at the end of the debate. But Anderson said he had heard enough already and stormed out of the meeting. Early, who was present, admitted Anderson's outburst was "rude," but he said of Leiserson:

"I have nothing but contempt for him. Vanderbilt is infiltrated with many extreme left-wingers. As an alumnus, I'll do my best to get him off the faculty."

He declined to say how he would go about getting professors fired. He also stressed that his opinions of Leiserson and other professors were personal opinions that had nothing to do with the Society.

Denies 'Whispers'

Early denied that the Society has started whispering campaigns against any local individuals or had made anonymous telephone calls telling people their neighbors were Communists.

"I doubt seriously that that has been done," he said. "If I heard of anyone doing it one of us would have to go. We're not trying to ferret out Communists. We're trying to inform people."

Local Birch Society activities begin in February of 1960, Early said, with a meeting at the home of Anderson. Those present heard a tape recording of Welch reading from "The Blue Book," Early said.

The Society now has eight chapters here, Early said, with average chapter membership of 20 to 25. These chapters meet monthly, usually at the home of their chapter leader.

Chapter Leaders

Early identified the chapter leaders, in addition to himself, as Thomas M. Trabue, an insurance company executive; Burton, an attorney; John Ambrose Jr., vice president of Ambrose Printing Co.; Richard Norvell, a partner in Norvell & Wallace Lumber Co.; Thomas W. Schlater, an attorney; Mark Bradford Jr., of Mark Bradford Insurance Agency; and Walt Crockett III, an insurance company representative.

Other leaders include Anderson, who is on the Society's national council, and Charles Howell III, of Howell & Associates contracting company, who serves as "local co-ordinator."

The Society is semi-secret, but not secret. Early willingly gave the names of the local chapter leaders, but declined to give the names of any rank-and-file members. He said they were assured when they joined that their names would not be disclosed.

When this reporter arranged an interview with Howell, he responded by calling a meeting of eight of the Society's leaders and a reporter from another newspaper. He then tape-recorded most of the "interview" which followed.

The Society has been most active here with its literature and films. The films are shown daily in church, school and civic groups. The books and pamphlets are also widely circulated.

Mounting Horror

Dr. John M. Aden, of the Vanderbilt University English department, is among those who have read "The Blue Book." Aden, who describes himself politically as a "Goldwater conservative," said of "The Blue Book":

"I read it with mounting horror. I'm quite dubious about their motives. They're attacking Communism by assuming a Fascist posture. The book kept dealing in terms of one leader, the big brother, the benevolent dictator, who would save us from the Communists.

"I think a lot of people have gotten into it under a misapprehension, without seeing the Fascist elements."

The Society's work is financed by membership dues which are listed on the last page of "The Blue Book" as:

Life membership, men or women, $1,000; annual membership in the Home Chapter or local chapters $24 for men, $12 for women.

Inside....

RED CHINA: Public favors attempt to improve relations 5-B

LEGISLATURE: A long look after adjournment 2-B

Image [illegible]

By MAC HARRIS

AFTER watching the Davidson County legislative delegation perform for the past 75 days, the people of this community should have learned one lesson well:

It is almost impossible to get anything done when lawmakers cannot speak for themselves.

That, in a nutshell, was the essential trouble with several Davidson lawmakers.

The fact that the delegation during the last week salvaged most, but not all, of the important legislation needed by this community was remarkable in the light of the many commitments some members of the delegation had made.

The most obvious of the lawmakers who did not speak for himself was young Clifford Allen III.

A Haunting Image

The image of young Allen popping up in delegation meetings with a statement prepared by his father will haunt other delegates for many nights to come.

Even to the last day of the Legislature, young Allen was issuing such statements. On Friday morning he issued a statement to the press saying he was opposed to the sewer district bill and would not vote for it.

Allen did this despite the fact he had already signed a card authorizing passage of the sewer bill in the House.

A few hours after he issued this statement, Allen was back to his original position. This came about when his father, Clifford Allen Jr., county tax assessor, appeared on the scene and all pretenses were [illegible] doned.

Up until that point, young Allen, publicly at least, had made his own decisions. But on the last day the man he affectionately calls "Daddy" took over openly.

Too Many Cooks . . .?

And the elder Allen wasn't the only man advising his son. City Councilman Aubrey Gillem, the council floor leader for Mayor Ben West, was another.

Thursday, for example, after the delegation had caucused, Allen received a phone call from Gillem at the delegation headquarters in the Hermitage Hotel.

Allen told Gillem he could not talk and to call him back at another room in the hotel. Allen then left the headquarters room and retired to a private room where he discussed the day's events with Gillem.

Other delegates recalled that a few weeks earlier, when young Allen and his father had created a crisis in the delegation by their refusal to agree on a Metro bill, young Allen made a triumphant appearance in City Council where he was greeted with applause.

Mayor West and most members of the council oppose Metro in favor of annexation. They all stand to lose their lucrative pension setups if Metro passes.

'Got 'em Squirming'

On that occasion when Allen visited City Council, he threw his arm around Gillem and said, "We've got them squirming now."

Several days later, as public protests mounted over the tactics used by the two Allens to block Metro, the elder Allen became ill and entered the hospital.

Pressure also [illegible] collapse of Sen. [illegible] Thursday. McGrath who had obligated himself to firemen and policemen to the extent that he did not want to vote for any pension reforms, was put on the hot seat to make several decisions on pensions.

He finally had to be taken from the capitol and sent home. The next day he appeared in good shape as he sang to the Legislature in honor of St. Patrick.

Rep. Herbert Jones didn't let one commitment block him from making another opposite to the first.

Jones signed a pledge to support Metro. But when it came down to the wire, he was the only man to vote against it from this county.

Jones Steamrollered

However, the Legislature rode right over Jones and passed the private act anyway. This was considered a near miracle by many veteran Capitol Hill observers. Normally the Legislature will not override one member of a delegation.

Memphis tried the same thing Friday when one of its delegates would not go along with a bill. But the Memphis lawmakers could not muster the necessary 50 votes to pass their private act. It failed 23-1 for lack of a constitutional majority. Davidson had mustered 60 votes two days earlier.

Jones demonstrated again Friday the difficulty of getting legislation passed when a lawmaker does think for himself.

After an 11th hour successful drive to get a city pension bill passed, the lawmakers attempted

Oth[illegible]

While [illegible] ity and members of the delegation waited for a decision, Jones talked over the telephone with a Davidson County contractor who had Jones' commitment to defeat the bill.

Despite all of this, however, the best example of lawmakers not being able to do their own thinking because they are committed to special groups came out during the last-minute pension hassle.

Firemen and police "watchdogs" stayed with the lawmakers day and night, not leaving them until the lawmakers went wearily home to bed.

They sat in the headquarters with the legislators and then trooped to the capitol with them to attend session.

When Rep. Charles Galbreath left the House chamber to get a drink of water, one of the firemen-police watchdog committeemen dutifully followed.

At the end, the firemen and police were the people who had to agree to pension reforms—not the legislators. Only when those handful of city employes gave their approval did the Davidson legislators pass any pension bills at all. If these employes had not approved, there would have been no pension bill passed.

Other Commitments

There were commitments the other way, too. Sen. Robert C. Taylor and Rep. F. Clay Bailey Jr. were committed to a Chamber of Commerce committee to

[illegible] Reps. [illegible] Galbreath, Allen and Garner Robinson. Rep. W. P. Winter was not firmly committed either way. Neither was Rep. Thomas H. Shriver.

Winter wanted to raise the millage limit on the present pension so the 619 persons now on pensions could be paid.

Shriver was interested in working out a compromise that would allow pensions to be paid but at the same time would bring about some reforms, if not everything that he, Taylor and Bailey felt was needed.

Middle Ground Wins

This middle ground finally won out.

As a result of the weeks of arguing, switching sides and delays on the two most important issues before them — Metro and pensions—most Davidson County residents might tend to overlook the fact that the delegation got considerable work done.

Among other things they did were to:

- Safeguard the rights of county teachers in schools annexed by the city.
- Revamp the county pension plan to tie it in to Social Security.
- Authorize a public defender for Davidson County, if approved by referendum.
- Improve the procedures in the county tax assessor's office.
- Authorize City Council to increase appropriations to the general fund from 13 to 15 mills.

[illegible] fixing insurance [illegible] blem of compulsory [illegible] of motor vehicles, re[illegible] tion for drivers' licenses, [illegible] safety education; co-operation with the federal agency on water resources; and the continuing study of legislative procedures and methods of improvement.

The council will start the studies later in the year. Much of the work in detail will be done by the expert staff under Director Tom Johnson.

* * *

The Ultimate Failure

The lower house's ultimate failure to vote its membership the proposed raise form the present $15 to a new $25 per diem (beginning in 1965) ended the session on a lighter vein with a good chuckle.

"They must have re-evaluated themselves, and decided against inflation," a wag suggested.

The question has been raised from time to time whether the state has gained greatly by the increase of legislative pay from the old $4 per day to a more realistic $15 per day.

Stature of Legislators

The general conclusion is that there is yet no appreciable climb in the stature of legislators—many of the old $4 variety still coming year after year.

But there's little disagreement that even the $15 per day offers no great appeal to those who travel any distance and stay in Nashville for the session.

Most members get away Thursday and don't return until Tuesday, thus reducing the session to a three-day work week with pay for seven days. But transportation costs on those weekends is that of the members and not the state.

Congressional Clown: Rep. William H. Ayres (R-Ohio) rides a tricycle through the White House at a reception given by President Kennedy for members of Congress Thursday. He brought the tricycle as a gift for the President's daughter, Caroline.

REC- 60

62-104401-887

March 23, 1961

1-2

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 16, 1961, and I sincerely appreciate your favorable remarks concerning my administration of the FBI.

In response to your inquiry, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the organization you mentioned.

Enclosed is some material dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

Edgar Hoover

Reace name on special mailing list 3/23

Enclosures (5)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Director's Speech, 10-18-60
3-60 LEB Introduction and 17th National Convention, CPUSA
Communist Target--Youth
Series from "Christianity Today"

CBF:mld

(8) ROBN ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

See NOTE, next page.

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

b6
b7C

Letter to [redacted]

b6
b7C

NOTE: Bufiles reflect no information identifiable with [redacted] Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anti-communist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower administration in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

[redacted]

b6
b7C

MARCH 16, 1961

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

[redacted]

b6
b7C

MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER,
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

2-1

DEAR SIR:

I AM SEEKING SOME INFORMATION AND HATE TO BOTHER A MAN AS BUSY AS YOU, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHERE ELSE I CAN TURN FOR THE INFORMATION AND BELIEVE WHAT I'M TOLD.

THE JOHN BURCH SOCIETY HAS RECENTLY HIT THIS TOWN. I NEVER HEARD OF IT UNTIL ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO. THE PEOPLE WHO BELONG TO THIS SOCIETY LOCALLY ARE ARE VERY MUCH ANTI-COMMUNIST (AS I AM) BUT IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THIS PARTICULAR GROUP IS USING MEANS AND METHODS THAT I THINK ARE JUST ONE S TEP AWAY FROM SUCH ORGANIZATIONS AS THE K.K.K., SECRET POLICE, ETC.

OUR LOCAL CHURCHES ARE BEING AFFECTED AND THE SUBJECT HAS POPPED UP INTO OUR SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION WHICH WILL BE HELD VERY SHORTLY.

FROM YOUR PERSONAL VIEWPOINT, IS THIS SOCIETY GOOD OR BAD IN OUR FIGHT TO MAINTAIN OUR FREEDOMS?

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ON THIS GROUP. PERSONALLY, I CERTAINLY DON'T INTEND TO JOIN THEM IN ANY WAY BECAUSE OF THEIR TACTICS ON A LOCAL BASIS, BUT I WOULD RESPECT YOUR OPINION GREATLY IN EVALUATING THEM FOR ME ON NATIONAL BASIS.

MCT-24
REC-60
62-104401-887

MAY I ADD IN CLOSING, THAT YOU ARE IN MY OPINION, THE FINEST PUBLIC SERVANT THAT THIS COUNTRY HAS HAD IN MANY A YEAR.

YOURS TRULY,

[redacted]

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Ack 3-23-61
cf: mid

[redacted]

8 Ac Bt

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-2-86 BY [illegible]

March 29, 1961

104421-888

REC 64

EX 104

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 20, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 29 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)
Director's Speech 10-18-60
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage
LEB Introduction 3-1-60 & Analysis of 17th National Convention CPUSA
One Nation's Response to Communism

(SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE)
RWE:jms/sak (3)

Tolson
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W.C. Sullivan
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Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

62 APR 5 1961

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FBI READING ROOM

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[redacted] 3-28-61

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NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent.

DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[redacted]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. Jones
Mr. W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

b6
b7c

J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover -

I am very much exercised over the accusations made by Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society against our beloved ex president, Dwight Eisenhower. Since he and his brother Milton Eisenhower have made no public statements denying these charges they must have a reason. Nevertheless, as a private citizen, I don't know what to believe. Does the F.B.I. have any statement to make on this subject?

Very truly yours,

/s/ [redacted]

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COPY:hbb

62-104401-888

REC-64

EX 104

MAR 31 1961

bm
S.T.

(D) THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY (JBS) -- SAC Letter 59-13 (F), dated March 10, 1959, set out background data concerning Robert H. Welch, Jr., a candy manufacturer of Belmont, Massachusetts, and his anticommunist campaign. SAC Letter 60-5 (C), dated January 26, 1960, advised that in December, 1958, Welch created an organization called "The John Birch Society," the long-range objective of which has been summarized as "less government, more responsibility, and a better world."

Recently, a printer in Santa Barbara, California, advised he had received an order from JBS to print 10,000 copies of my poster, "What You Can Do To Fight Communism." The JBS also requested the printer to print an addition on the poster to the effect that this statement was being distributed under the auspices of the JBS. We have advised the printer that the FBI has not given approval for JBS to reproduce the poster nor could the FBI approve of the addition to the poster reflecting its distribution by JBS.

In view of this irresponsible organization's attempt to capitalize on the FBI's prestige, no Bureau publications of any kind are to be made available to JBS or to any of its representatives. You should be alert to the possibility that this group may attempt to reproduce Bureau publications and distribute them giving the impression that the FBI sanctions JBS. Immediately advise the Bureau of any such information coming to your attention. Further, any requests by JBS to reproduce Bureau publications should be turned down.

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN
66-04-

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover

Director

62-104401-
NOT RECORDED
149 MAR 30 1961

#220504 Springmore 4/2/86
6/24/83 Sp8BJ/BCE

3/21/61
SAC LETTER NO. 61-14

56 APR 3 1961

62-104401-

March 24, 1961

Honorable Don L. Short
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

My dear Congressman:

Your letter of March 20, 1961, has been received.

While I would like to be of service in answering the inquiry from your constituent, the FBI is strictly a fact-gathering agency and does not furnish evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. For this reason I am unable to be of assistance to you on this occasion. I hope you will not infer that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the individual or organization about which you inquired.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE: We have had very little contact with Congressman Short; however, his wife, daughter, and friends did tour the Bureau in February, 1960, and Mrs. Short expressed appreciation. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

DWB:hmm
(4)

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Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Delivered Personally
3/27/61 by

55 APR 2

XEROX
MAR 30 1961

ORIGINAL FILED IN 94-53334-6

b6
b7C

DON L. SHORT
AT LARGE
NORTH DAKOTA
COMMITTEE:
AGRICULTURE

OFFICE STAFF:
LOUISE AUDREY FINKE
RUTH P. EDICK

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

March 20, 1961

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. Tele. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I will appreciate being advised if you or your organization have ever run a security check on the John Birch Society. If so, may I be advised of your findings? I have received an inquiry from one of my constituents.

It is my understanding that this is an ultra-conservative group, but for the record, I would like to be advised if you have anything in your files on the organization or Robert Welch and other leaders.

With kindest regards, I am,

Respectfully yours,

Don L. Short
DON L. SHORT
Member of Congress

DLS:lc

62-104401-
NOT RECORDED
[illegible] 1961

7 MAR 28 1961

1 XEROX
MAR 30 1961

EXP. PROC.
MAR 21 1961

ack
3-24-61
DWB/tmg

94-53834-6

March 29, 1961

REC-44 62-104401-889

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 23, 1961, and while I would like to be of assistance to you regarding your inquiry, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and does not furnish evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject which you mentioned.

I firmly believe that it behooves all of us to make a concerted effort to gain a broad knowledge of the objectives and operations of the communist menace. A lack of understanding is dangerous in that it often results in a reprehensible and indiscriminate labeling as communists those who merely dissent or advocate unpopular or unorthodox views. Education is of great importance in this matter, for when fully aware of the aims of communism, we can all share in the opportunity to defeat it with the weapon it fears most--truth.

In view of your interest in fighting the communist menace, I am enclosing several items which may be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
See list on next page;
JWO'B:dkp (3)

See NOTE on next page...

MAILED 4
MAR 28 1961
COMM-FBI

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Sullivan

66 APR 6 1961

TELETYPE UNIT

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NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401) Bufiles contain no information identifiable with the correspondent.

ENCLOSURES:

One Nation's Response to Communism
Communist Illusion and Democracy
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Series from "Christianity Today"

[redacted]

March 23, 1961

44
17

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

As a citizen interested in fighting communism in this country, I would appreciate very much having your opinion of the John Birch Society. There is considerable discussion in this area about this organization, and the stated purpose of same to fight communism. Membership is growing rapidly, and the organization appears to have stimulated considerable thinking.

All publicity in this locale has been against this organization. This criticism has ranged from classifying members as subversives and communists to calling it ineffective.

Would you please send any information you have available at your earliest convenience which would serve to clarify the purposes of this organization and whether it is worthy of attention.

Yours very sincerely

[redacted]

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62-104401-889

REC-44

MAR 22 1961

ack 3-29-61 JWO Bridge

4-2-61 Spinachia

62-104401-890

REC-64

EX 104

March 29, 1961

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 21, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401) No literature is being sent as correspondent is a member of the John Birch Society.

RWB:eal
(3)

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MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

APR 5 1961

MAR 29 1961

MAR 29 4 14 PM '61

FBI

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[redacted]

March 21, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

For years we have watched the onslaught of Communism and its increasing encroachment and effectiveness upon the public life of our country. In the last several years our insight become sharper having been whetted by good information and painstaking research. However this never seemed to be nearly effectiv enough.

One day recently we were introduced to the John Birch Society. After careful consideration we decided to join. Since we have become members we have been very satisfied with the program and have felt the encouragement that comes with concrete action.

Now, suddenly, there is a major offensive leveled at the John Birch Society in a concerted effort to discredit and destroy the work of the group. At this point it seems necessary to reappraise our membership in the Society.

We therefore turn to you and ask for you evaluation of the John Birch Society as to whether it is effective, whether it seems to have a stable and reasonable approach to a viscious problem, and whether the leadership is indeed knowledgable and capable of leading dedicated citizens in the fight against the Communist conspiracy.

We will appreciate any answering information you can give us, and above all we want to thank you for what must at times seem like a lonely and unsolicited vigilance to guard our country from dangers both within and without. You are doing a fine job and whatever support I can at any time give you I would be most happy to provide.

ack 3-27-61 RWE:

Sincerel[redacted]

62-104401-850

REC 64

EX 104

62 MAR 31 1961

CORR

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b7C

REC- 73

62-104401-89

March 28, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 20, 1961, and I appreciate your generous remarks about my administration of the FBI and my book, "Masters of Deceit."

While I would like to be of assistance, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry. I am sure from the foregoing that you will realize that representatives of this Bureau could not have made the statements you mentioned.

In view of your interest, I am forwarding, under separate cover, several items setting forth my views on communism which you may like to have.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

1 - Houston - Enclosure

1 - [redacted]

USC - What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth
Introduction 3/60 LEB & 17th Natl Convention CP, USA
Series From Christianity Today

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of the correspondent.

JMM:pak (6)

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Ingram
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Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

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[redacted]

March 20, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation
506 Old Post Office Building
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As an American citizen I am most alarmed about Communism in our world today. A few organizations such as the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade and the John Birch Society, to name just two of them, are openly fighting Communism, or so it seems to me. There are many who are deliberately opposing these organizations and say that they are "tools of the Communists".

I have read your book Masters of Deceit and, through no attempt to be just flattering, I honestly feel that you and your organization (F.B.I.) are the only ones I can trust. Incidentally, these same opposing persons are in some instances saying that certain F.B.I. agents (we know these agents personally also) have said that the above mentioned organizations are "questionable".

Up to now I have been convinced that these organizations were all right, but I most definitely do not want to give moral support or any other kind of support to them if they are "pro-Communist". People need to know these things or they become so frustrated over who to believe that they just quit doing anything, which in my opinion is just what the Communists want all Americans to do. If these organizations are genuinely fighting Communism, should they not be given the support they deserve?

Can you give me any kind of an answer to my questions or can anyone? I am desperately in search of an answer as are hundreds of us in this local community here in Houston.

Thank you for your valuable time that I've taken.

Most sincerely yours,

[redacted]

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104401-891

MAR 30 1961

EX-108

EXP. PROC.

MAR 22 1961

March 29, 1961

62-101101-892

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter, with enclosures, was received on March 23, 1961, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED MAR 29 1961 COMM-FBI

Enclosures (4)
(listed next page)

see NOTE next page

JMM:efr*
(3)

51 APR 5 1961

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Gandy

Enclosures
How To Fight Communism
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Communism: Bitter Enemy of Religion
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

[redacted]

March 16, 1961

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Trotter
Mr. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
[redacted]

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

For several months I have meant to write you for information concerning THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY. My sister and her husband were gullible enough to donate one thousand dollars for a life membership in this thing without first attempting to find out whether or not it is pro or anti communistic.

I have searched the enclosed material for clues, but I find that I remain unenlightened. May I please have your opinion in order to stop this sister's enthusiasm, in the event that this society is not what it appears to be. My sister's [redacted] who was in the U.S. Navy until quite recently, threw a regular "hissy" when he heard that his mother was supporting this society--he called it "dommunistic" and threatened to disown his parents if they did not immediately sever all connections with the entire project.

I will sincerely appreciate hearing a report from you on this subject at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

[redacted]

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62-104401-892

MAR 31 1961

4 ENCLOSURE

ENCLO. BEHIND FILE

REC 19

104401 - 893

March 24, 1961

L 1-2

EX 104

[redacted]

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Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 15, 1961, with enclosures, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated. Your concern regarding the menace of communism is indeed understandable.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some material dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
Director's Speech 10-18-60
Communist Target -- Youth
3-60 LEB Intro & 17th National Conv.
(See next page for Note.)
RWE:plt
(3)

Series from Christianity Today
One Nation's Response to Communism

Tolson
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MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

62 APR 5 1961

RECEIVED
MAR 24 3 47 PM '61
READING ROOM

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. Enclosures were two newspaper clippings from the "Memphis Commercial Appeal," one concerning the payment of Mississippi funds to [redacted] of Circuit Riders of Cincinnati, Ohio, and a letter to the editor which correspondent wrote. [redacted] is on the Special Correspondent's List but recently became hostile concerning a speech made by a Bureau representative which he felt was counter to information his group has been disseminating.

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March 5, 1961

[redacted]

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TRUE COPY

L 1-1

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I want some information about The John Birch Society Inc - organized by a Mr. Robert Welch, - whose address is Belmont 78, Massachusetts Since I joined the society, a month ago. Mr. Welch's pamphlet "The Politition" has been made known to the public - In this pamphlet he calls Dewignt Eisenhower a Communist, I cannot go along with any such thought - Please give me all information you have on The John Birch Society and Mr. Welch.

There is a great deal of interest in fighting Communism here in Grenada, a town of ten thousand I want your approval or disaproval of some of the speakers that have spoken to us. They are known as the Circuit Riders (110 Government Place, Cinn. Ohio) The magazine Christian Crusade is published by them - Dr. iBilly James Hargis [redacted] are a few that have spoken to us - These men charge fees and give out anti communist booklets - Many FBI reports and House Un American reports - also some of their own - Their talks deal mostly with Communis infiltration in our churches and National Council of churches-

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We need to know the correct way to fight this menace and which organizations & men we can safely support. When a finger is pointed - people are upset (especially ministers) and say "Witchhunters-"

I am enclosing an article [redacted] to several of our leading newspapers, was lucky enough to have it published- "7 Ways to Fight Communism-"

In short, Mr. Hoover, we need guidance in fighting Communism - the right kind of guidance - I am vitally concerned with our Country's future-

Sincerely,

/s/ [redacted]

b6
b7C

62-104401-893

ENCLOSURE (news clippings)

EX 104

17 MAR 30 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-1-86 [illegible]

, March 14, 1961

Lowman Receives Second Payment

$1,354 Raises Speaker's Total To $3,824

From The Commercial Appeal
Jackson, Miss., Bureau

JACKSON, Miss., March 13.—The state auditor's office disclosed Monday that a second payment totaling $1,354 was paid by the Sovereignty Commission, the state's segregation watchdog agency, to Myers G. Lowman, executive secretary of Circuit Riders, Inc., of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mr. Lowman has been in Mississippi making anti-Communist speeches under sponsorship of the state agency.

Previously, the commission had paid Mr. Lowman $2,470 for addresses in January. The latest payment, for his February appearances, brought his total to $3,824.

During Mr. Lowman's February visit, when he made appearances at the University of Mississippi and Mississippi State University, he was accompanied to Mississippi by Benjamin Gitlow, an ex-Communist who had been purged from the party in 1929. Since that time, Mr. Gitlow has appeared as a witness before committees and has made public speeches.

Mr. Lowman made a series of addresses in Mississippi recently under sponsorship of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

3-14-61
Memphis Commercial Appeal

62-104401-893

ENCLOSURE

The Attorney General

March 10, 1961

Director, FBI

INQUIRY FROM SENATOR MILTON R. YOUNG
REGARDING THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

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For your information, Senator Milton R. Young called my office yesterday to make inquiry regarding the John Birch Society. The Senator advised that he and Senator Mansfield had attacked this group on the floor of the Senate and that he had been amazed by the reaction to his remarks. He said that following the speech, members of this Society had contacted his office claiming that I had endorsed this group.

The Senator was told that this assertion was a complete falsehood inasmuch as it was, of course, outside of my authority to endorse any group or organization. He was further told that I would not under any circumstances issue a statement defending the activities of the John Birch Society.

Members of this group also made claim to Senator Young that up to eighty per cent of the top people in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare are communists or communist supporters and they said that I was the source for this information. The Senator was advised that this ridiculous claim had been previously brought to my attention and that it had been promptly labeled as a complete fabrication.

By letter of March 1, 1961, I advised the Honorable Abraham A. Ribicoff of the above-reported statement which had been erroneously attributed to me.

Previous information was furnished to the Department concerning the John Birch Society by our memorandum dated February 1, 1961.

REC- 87 62-104401-910

For your additional information, I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Senator Young dated today.

Enclosure

1 - Mr. Byron R. White - Enclosure
Deputy Attorney General

1 - Mr. Parsons (Sent direct)
1 - Mr. Belmont (Sent direct)
1 - Mr. Jones (Sent direct)
1 - [redacted] (Sent direct)

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67 APR 5 1961

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MAILED 27
MAR 10 1961
COMM-FBI

MAR 10 4 14 PM '61
FBI-READING ROOM

March 31, 1961

airtel

S.T.
esa

To: SAC, Kansas City

From: Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-7-86 Spinnemee

"LAWRENCE DAILY JOURNAL-WORLD"
LAWRENCE, KANSAS

Enclosed are two copies of an editorial which appeared in captioned newspaper on 3-16-61. The item was called to the Bureau's attention by [redacted] Copies of her letter and enclosure, as well as a copy of our reply, are also enclosed for your information. We have had limited cordial correspondence with her. b6 b7C

It is noted that the editorial says that leaders of the John Birch Society include my name among a group of individuals they labeled as "pure-bred Reds." While we have received information that this group has named certain Government officials as communist, this is the first information the Bureau has received alleging that the Society linked my name with subversive elements. You should have a mature, experienced Agent contact [redacted] of the "Journal-World" and ascertain his source of information concerning me as expressed in the editorial. Be certain [redacted] understands that we have no interest whatsoever in the Society and that our only concern is to determine the basis for the allegation relating to me. For your information, the Bureau's position in response to inquiries concerning the Society is that we do not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. Bureau files reflect very limited contact with this newspaper. On 3-25-57 [redacted] was sent a copy of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin upon his request. Suairtel results under above caption to reach the Bureau no later than 4-6-61. b6 b7C

MAILED 9
MAR 31 1961
COMM-FBI

ORIGINAL FILED IN 94-378

Enclosures (5)

Follow-up made for 4-6-61.

NOTE: See letter to [redacted] same date. b6 b7C

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REC-91 62-104,401-911

EX-106

NOT RECORDED
APR 5 1961

REC'D DE LOACH

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

66 APR 20 1961

March 31, 1961

REC-65 62-104401-912

EX-108

b6
b7C

Dear

Your letter of March 24, 1961, has been received, and I appreciate the concern which prompted you to write.

Although I would like to be of assistance to you regarding your inquiry, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, and does not furnish evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the organization to which you referred. In view of your interest, I am enclosing several items which explain my views on communism which you may enjoy reading.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 31 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)
Communist Illusion And Democratic Reality
One Nation's Response To Communism
LEB Intro, 3-60, Analysis of 17th Natl Conv of CP, USA
Christianity Today Series
Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with the correspondent.

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62 APR 7 1961

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H. A. HOOKS, M. D.

PHYSICIAN & SURGEON

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

b6
b7C

24 March '61

J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Recently there has been a barrage of criticism, locally and nationally, of the "John Birch Society".

Please give me your brief, frank opinion of this organization as to its aims, methods, and patriotism.

Respectfully,

b6
b7C

MAR 28 1961

REC-65 62-104401-912

EX-108

APR 4 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-1-86 BY [illegible]

[redacted] b6 b7C

March 22, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The John Birch Society, avowedly an anti-communist organization, has become the center of controversy in Southern California.

Interested as I am in internal threats to this nation, I would like to know of either your, or the department's, opinion of the Birch group.

Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

[redacted] b6 b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-1-86 BY [illegible]

ack 3-29-61 RWE: [illegible]

REC-65 62-104401-913

EX-108 10 APR 4 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

REC-65 62-104401-913

EX-108

March 30, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 22, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 30 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (4)
(listed next page)

see NOTE next page

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62 APR 2 1961

Enclosures
Communism: Bitter Enemy of Religion
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
One Nation's Response to Communism
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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Tavel
Trotter
W. C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Mohr

DATE: March 28, 1961

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

[redacted]

[redacted] said that she would keep us posted. She also indicated to [redacted] that they have literally been swamped with requests for information not only from Congressmen and Senators but from the general public on the attitude of the John Birch Society. She expressed her own personal disapproval of the methods used by Welch and said that his type of activity is doing more harm than good.

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b7D

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

1 - Mr. Jones

ECK:geg
(3)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9-1-81 BY [illegible]

EX 100

REC- 60

62-104401-914

APR 4 1961

CRIME RESEARCH

51 APR 7 1961

[redacted]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gandy
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram

b6
b7C

28 March 1961

J. Edgar Hoover, Esq.
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am enclosing a copy of the letter I have at length mailed to [redacted] in form being a revision of the draft I sent you some days ago. I am doing this in accordance with my statement to [redacted] and do not want you to take the time even to acknowledge this letter of mine.

b6
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I deeply appreciated your acknowledgment of my last letter. I still hope the day will come when you will be led to do what Robert Welch has, no other man being yet available, tried to do, lead a blind, confused and ignorant citizenry into effective action. Your vast influence and absolutely unique position can make possible what no other man could possibly do. You are respected more than any other single individual for your knowledge of and your service to the great cause of protecting this nation and its ideals from its Communist enemies, and I begin to doubt that anything less than your integrity and honored position can turn the tide.

MAR 30 1961

30

Most respectfully yours,

[redacted]

[redacted]

b6
b7C

ENCLOSURE

62-104401-915

REC-82

APR 4 1961

50 APR 10 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-1-96

[redacted]

b6
b7C

28 March 1961

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

b6
b7C

This letter is purposely addressed to you at your home. It is, through you, addressed to [redacted] and [redacted] you being the three men who would appear to be responsible for the handling, by the Independent Star-News, your Pasadena newspaper, of its attack upon Robert Welch and the policies and membership of The John Birch Society.

You are newspapermen. As such you conduct your work behind a newspaper organization and its power, editorial and otherwise, which you feel protects you personally from those outside. You do not act, ever, on equal terms with your fellow citizens. Therefore I, a citizen unknown to you, come to you at your residence; under the guise of editorial policy you, if addressed at your office, could ignore what I have to say.

1. I deplore the conduct you three men have engaged in, designed to nullify the work of The John Birch Society, a group of Americans possessing true patriotism, by holding it, them and the founder of that group up to obloquy and scorn. The group you would destroy has as its goals accomplishments as high as man can conceive, -- in particular, the saving of this country as a free nation. It is significant that you timed your efforts to destroy the work of that group to coincide with similar efforts by newspapers in Los Angeles and Santa Barbara.

2. I believe the record shows that you deliberately sought, by unsupported implications and by ignoring material facts, to poison your readers against Robert Welch, impugning his character and judgment by indefensible editorials and columns. The bases of this effort by you three men have been, according to what you have published, written declarations made by Mr. Welch more than two years ago and your apparent disapproval of his judgment and views expressed at that time. It is noteworthy that no evidence appeared, so far as I know, that you considered, knew, or cared to know with fairness and exactitude the bases of Mr. Welch's views or judgment and what they are now in 1961, the year of your attack. There has been no indication that you know or have been interested in learning anything about the knowledge he has had in the

62-104401-915

4-1-86

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past, which had made his judgments sound, so often confirmed by subsequent events. I do not know Mr. Welch personally; but I have read his magazine from the start of the predecessor of American Opinion. I profoundly respect his past dedication to learning about the Communist Conspiracy and the devotion of his entire life to the effort to awaken and lead those who care to work for the highest interests of this nation and to save it from Communist slavery.

3. This man and his tremendous effort have by you three men and your paper been treated with subtle and contemptible writing from the cowardly position of newspaper editors, who wield a power of incalculable advantage over any individual citizen by reason of their power to pick and choose and edit and time whatever appears. Although you have had The Blue Book, which reveals Mr. Welch's character and sincerity and devotion to the best in human life, you have written and published not one word of good about him.

4. You apparently decry the ways and means his best judgment has advocated for effectively and successfully opposing this nation's deadly enemies. That is your right, if so you are disposed. But you would damn The John Birch Society and all its members which are not Mr. Welch, as some members have pointed out. You have deliberately and irresponsibly chosen to lead your readers to ignore the fact that Mr. Welch and the members of The John Birch Society are distinct considerations.

5. I believe your record is one which cannot be justifiably reconciled with a sincere desire to serve the true interests of this country and its survival as a free nation dedicated to the ideals that moved Mr. Welch to act as he did. You have been completely negative toward that action and have sought to destroy its effectiveness, without the slightest visible effort to serve the nation's welfare or those purposes by any constructive contribution of your own.

6. If you three men had honestly cared so to serve and, placing the nation's interests above all else, had in good faith felt Mr. Welch and the Society mistaken in their approach to the cause of opposing Communism because they were pursuing methods inimical to the interests of the United States and the cause of freedom and their survival, then you, three individuals, could have acted to set in motion means for the correction of bad judgment in a fair-minded, decent and constructive way. The course you chose was the antithesis of such a path. You have made a record of effort to destroy one great hope that exists to avert disaster. You have offered nothing in its place. That record is one of conduct absolutely opposed to the preservation of this nation, for its purpose is to stop that great effort, to silence and remove from the scene that best existing hope of awakening and leading into action the millions who, in default of such action, will ultimately and surely be enslaved.

b6
b7C

7. The conduct of you three men is such as seriously damages and jeopardizes the chances of Americans' resisting the onslaught of the Communist Conspiracy by fighting it with effect, -- whatever methods employed -- even those such men as you may approve. You know this. What you must also know is that such an effort as you have made directly assists and advances the cause of Communists in an incredibly appalling way. I therefore submit that such conduct betrays the highest interests of this nation and the cause of everything that is decent and noble and of spiritual value for which this country at its best has stood. Such result I believe to be as damaging, deadly, and opposed to this country's welfare as the results of any action by any traitor who has ever chosen or will ever choose to align himself with the Communists and play into their hands. I do not call you traitors or Communists. Whatever you are is determined not by labels or name calling, but by the facts and results of what you do.

8. It is time for you and all Americans to face what is, I believe, the most vital and important fact of all to be recognized in this frightful struggle which is determining the issue of life or death for the freedom of man. The time has arrived when Americans must recognize that labels are beside the point and only serve to confuse the issue. The only question that matters now is what serves to help this nation and freedom and what harms them and sets them back. Motives do not determine that issue, however revealing of character they may be. Your actions and their results do. I submit that the recent action of you three men harms this nation and the cause of freedom. It is high time, and long past it, for the conduct of Americans to be judged by the test of whether it helps the Communists or helps the United States. By that test must each American be judged as friend or foe, in deed and effect.

9. Let your position be tested, then, by the measure of your desire and willingness now to serve the cause of truth, of fairness, of true patriotism and courage. You have sordidly attacked one man and those who, with him, would, to the utmost of their good faith, take action to fight Communism at this juncture, which I am convinced is quite as critical as Mr. Welch has made so plain. You have made this attack from a position of unequal advantage, from your editorial office, with the power of your newspaper's control of what appears in its pages. Have you three, stripped of your newspaper's power and insulation, the character to stand up to those you have sought to condemn in the eyes of your readers, you as three individual citizens meeting other citizens on equal terms? Let us see.

10. I ask you three to advise me whether you, as three individual men responsible and accountable for what has been done by your newspaper, will meet Mr. Welch -- or such man or men as he may designate -- on a public platform, to make your accusations and implications against him face to face and then allow him to answer you? Likewise, will you meet such leader or leaders of The John Birch Society as may be designated,

b6
b7C

to accuse them and allow them in like manner to rebut your charges? Will you publicly explain the timing of your attack with the attacks of other newspapers? I put these questions in deadly earnest, for they test your decency, your good faith, your personal courage, your interest in the truth.

11. I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Welch and Mr. J. Edgar Hoover. I shall advise both men of your answers, and I request answers from each of you. It is all to the good, all the better for the test of your characters, that I am a citizen unknown to you -- one American who is concerned because of the danger we are in just as is Mr. Welch.

12. I want you to understand very clearly that I purposely do not indicate in this letter any agreement or disagreement on my part with Mr. Welch's personal views, other than my full agreement with his appraisal of the present danger to this land of the operations of the Communist Conspiracy; nor do I here express approval or disapproval of his convictions regarding the only effective ways of fighting it successfully. That is in no sense material to the issue I have chosen to draw in this letter.

I want you to know, also, that I am not a member of The John Birch Society and that I speak for no one but myself. Indeed, Mr. Welch and the Society may well consider a meeting such as I propose quite inadvisable, if it is not impossible, to fit it into their plans. But by your response to my request, or your ignoring it, this letter can accomplish and reveal a good deal. I am mailing it to you by certified mail, with a return receipt requested, so there will be evidence of its receipt by you for yourself and for [redacted] and [redacted]

Yours very truly,

b6
b7C

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted]

March 28, 1961

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 24. Thank you for your courtesy in this matter.

[redacted]

b6
b7C

no ack 3/31/61 file

[redacted]

REC-6 62-104401-916

EX-114

12 APR 4 1961

b6
b7C

[redacted]

CORRESPONDENCE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-1-86 [illegible]

178

55 APR 10 1961

[redacted] b6 b7C

March 22, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D.C.

Sir:

I wish to thank you for sending me material that I have requested in the past and I hope that you will be able to aid me once again.

Do you know where I can obtain, or could you send me, if you have, the following information:

REPORT # 2050 John Birch Society

INSTITUTE OF PACIFIC RELATIONS
REPORT of the COMMITTEE on the JUDICIARY
82nd. Congress 2nd. Session
Pursuant to S. Res. 366 81st. Congress
Hearings held July 25, 1951 - June 20, 1952
by the INTERNAL SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE

INSTITUTE OF PACIFIC RELATIONS
Hearings before the Subcommittee to Investigate the Administration of the Internal Security Act and Other Internal Security Laws of the Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 82nd. Congress 1st. Session on the Institute of Pacific Relations
PART I. July 25, 26, 31, August 2 & 7, 1951
PART II. August 9, 14, 16, 20, 22, & 23, 1951
PART III. September 14, 18, 19, 20, 25, 1951

REC-9 12-104401-917

[redacted] b6 b7C

1961

66 APR 10 1961

62-104401-918

REC-9

March 31, 1961

Mr. Mrs.

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

The letters of March 22, 1961, from your wife and you have been received, and I do want you to know how much I appreciate your generous expressions of confidence in my administration of the FBI. Thank you for your blessing.

While I do not have the information you requested, perhaps if you communicated directly with the Committees which prepared the reports, they would be of some assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 31 1961
COMM-FBI

NOTE: Bufiles contain no derogatory information regarding the correspondent.

(SEE NEXT PAGE)

JMM:hmm
(3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

178

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

66 APR 10 1961

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

b6
b7C

[redacted]

March 22, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I wish to thank you for your years of devoted service to your country.

As a member of the John Birch Society I have become better informed regarding the functioning of our government and, of course, write letters to our Senators and Congressmen both on the State and Federal government level. I, personally, do not consider this organization to be subversive or fascist as those who are voicing their opposition to it at present claim. However all the publicity makes me realize what you and the FBI have been up against for years in your fight against Communism. If only you could come out with a positive plan of action for a group such as ours, but then you too would be smeared too, so I guess that the only thing we can do is just continue to try to make our voices heard to our representatives.

May God bless you and keep you in good health.

b6
b7C

[redacted]

REC-9

APR 4 1961

April 4, 1961

62-104401-919

REC-82

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 29 and wish to express my thanks for the interest which prompted your communication and for your generous comments.

While I would like to be of service to you, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal government and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject about which you inquired.

I have no objection to your using my letter in the manner you described. I am also enclosing a recent statement of mine which you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 31
APR - 4 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosure
April, 1961, LEB Introduction
- Cincinnati - Enclosure

NOTE: No record concerning correspondent in Bufiles.

HHA:jab
(4)

Note continued next page

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

62 APR 10 1961

APR 4 3 32 PM '61
FBI
READING ROOM

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

29 March 1961

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. R
Mr. T
Mr. T
Mr. W. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Just in the last week or so the Dayton papers have been bringing to light the existence of an organization called the John Birch Society. From what little has been written, indeed what little seems to be known of the organization, does not set well with me. I read your book "Masters of Deceit", I hold you in the highest regard, thus I'm writing to you for information on the John Birch Society. Is it, in your opinion, another mask for Communist subversion? It has been so hinted, and if this seems to be so, then I would like to know how to counteract the damage they may do. I'd like your permission to send your answer to the Letters to the Editors column of the local paper for all to read. Just this morning there was a letter in that column from the man who heads the Dayton chapter of the John Birch Society. Of course he does not identify himself as such but I read his name and position with the Society in the article recently written in the local papers and given front-page coverage. If they are suspect, I think the people should know about it, don't you? Thank you for your courtesy and cooperation.

REC-82 62-104401-919

EX 103

APR 5 1961

b6
b7C

4.1.86 Sprmacmre

ack 4/4/61 HHR

1 acknowledge 4/5/61 pl

32 EXP. PROC.
MAR 31 1961

REC-82 62-104-1-920

April 3, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 22, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

MAILED 9
APR 3 - 1961
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

APR 3 1 34 PM '61
RECORD-READING ROOM
FBI

Enclosures (5) (Listed next page)

see NOTE next page

DCL:baw (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Letter to [redacted]

b6
b7C

Enclosures
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
One Nation's Response To Communism
Communist Party, USA
How To Beat Communism
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated undet laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

TRUE COPY

[redacted]

b6
b7C

March 22, 1961

Dear Sir,

Could you tell me if the "John Birch Society" is alright or is it a Communist front. I am planning to join it and don't want to get into a wrong organization.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

REC-82 62-104401-920

APR 5 1961

EX 104

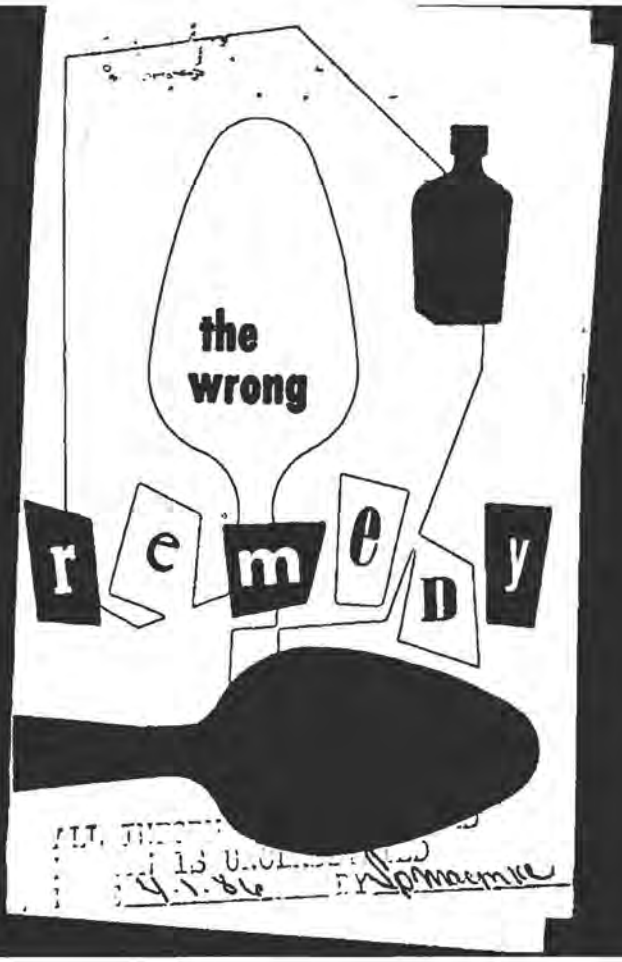
1 true copy
3-31-61
D baw

ENCLOSURE

ack 4.3.61

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

4-1-86 Sprinacpme


the
wrong
r e m e d y

Remedy . . .

● "You have a very sick little girl!" the doctor said, shaking his head. "However, I had a similar case just a short time ago that I was able to help."

Taking a bottle of medicine from his bag he placed it in the mother's hand. "This medicine is the only medicine that will help your daughter. You must give it to her during the night exactly as I direct." Giving the mother very careful directions, the doctor left with the promise to call the first thing the next morning to see how his little patient was.

The next morning as the doctor knocked at the door, he was expecting to see the little girl much improved. To his surprise the mother opened the door, sobbing so hard that she could not speak. Without a word she turned and led the way to the little girl's room.

There upon the bed lay a motionless figure, and the doctor immediately knew that the girl had died.

For a few moments the doctor stood with bowed head. Finally he said to the weeping mother, "I cannot tell you how sorry I am! I was *sure* that that medicine would help her, and I fully expected to see her well on the road to recovery this morning. I just cannot understand what happened!"

Glancing to the stand beside the bed he started as though he could not believe what he saw! There stood his bottle of medicine—*untouched!*

"Oh! Didn't you understand? Didn't I make it clear to you that you must give this medicine to your daughter exactly as I told you? That medicine would have saved her life!"

Finally the weeping mother said, "Just after you left yesterday my neighbor came in. She told me her daughter had had the very illness mine seemed to have, and she had found a medicine that had helped wonderfully. So she gave me her medicine, and I have been giving that to my daughter instead of yours all night!"

The doctor left the house with a heavy

heart; there was nothing that he could say. His remedy had not been taken!

Do you have the dreadful sickness of sin? Perhaps you say you have never heard of that sickness. Everyone born into this world has this awful disease of sin in his heart. There are many symptoms boys and girls can easily recognize, for this sickness of sin is evidenced by disobedience to parents, evil tempers, unclean thoughts, and many, many other things.

Is this sickness serious? Yes, indeed! It leads without fail to eternal death unless the right remedy, the only cure, is taken.

There is a Remedy offered for the sickness of sin. The Great Physician offers today, "... the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin" (I John 1:7).

Satan would offer many substitutes for God's Remedy, but no substitute will do. Satan's substitute for their sickness of sin will lead to eternal death!

Take God's Remedy—and LIVE!

—By Margaret Tuininga

Good News Publishers—a non-profit organization
411 South Wells St., Chicago 7. Printed in U.S.A.
Color-Tone
125 for $1.00

April 3, 1961

6-104401-921

REC- 82 [redacted]

EX 104

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 25, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
APR 3 - 1961
COMM-FBI

APR 3 4 52 PM '61
REC'D-ROOM
b6
b7C

Enclosures (5)

SEE NOTE AND ENCLOSURES NEXT PAGE

RWE:jcs
(3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

50 APR 10 1961

Letter to [redacted]

b6
b7C

Enclosures
Communist Party, USA
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
How To Beat Communism
Expose of Soviet Espionage
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

TRUE COPY

[redacted] b6 b7C

March 25th '61

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director of Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

There is an organization here known as the 'John Birch Society' and much controversy has arisen concerning the merit of this organization.

As a confused citizen, yet one who wishes to do her part in the fight against communism, May I have your opinion concerning this society.

Yours very truly,

/s/ [redacted] b6 b7C

EX 104

REC-82

62-104401-961

APR 5 1961

ITC 3-28-61

4-3-61

Ack: ~~3/31/61~~

RWE: [illegible]

CORRESPONDENCE

RWE: [illegible]

4.1.86 [illegible]

62-104401-922

CHANGED TO

63-10138-X

MAR 26 1965

MK-Bau

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-1-84 Spmaemre

REC- 91 62-104401-923 April 3, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 25 has been received, and I thank you for your kind remarks concerning my book, "Masters of Deceit." In regard to your inquiry, while I would like to be of assistance to you, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and does not furnish evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the organization to which you referred.

Thank you for writing to me as you did and I know you will understand my position in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 9
APR 3 - 1961
COMM-FBI

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent on the basis of information furnished.

JWO'B:gcb
(3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

TRUE COPY

[redacted] b6 b7C

March 25, 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover,

My husband and I have just read your book "Masters of Deceit." Thank you very much for writing it - I am ashamed I had not read it before this.

I realize you are an extremely busy man, but we do need your advice. We have recently joined the John Birch Society and would like your personal opinion of this group. We have investigated it and feel it is the only group we know of that is doing any thing to help private citizens fight communism. However, since communists are so good at saying one thing and meaning another (as pointed out in your book), we are not sure.

I realize the communists have done a good job of confusing me. I do not know whom to trust or believe any more. However, I am a Christian and an American. I must, therefore, learn. This is why we are asking for your help. Please advise us in this matter of the John Birch Society. Also, what can we as private citizens do to help the United States and fight communism?

I am very sorry to bother you with this but know of no other place to turn for help. We will be anxiously awaiting your reply at your earliest opportunity.

Yours very sincerly,

/s/ [redacted] b6 b7C

1 tc 3-31-61
4-7-61
ack 3-31-61
J WOIB: [illegible]

4.7.86 Sp'mcgmr

b6
b7C

March 24,1961

r. John Herbert Hoover,
ashington, D.C.
ear Mr Hoover:

John Birch Society

I am enclosing a carbon copy of a letter I have just ritten to the Los Angeles Times. It is self explanatory and no reply is eeded.

Cordially

Marrell to Eckroth 3-30-61
RWE:cjk

ENCLOSURE

4-1-86

REC-33

62-104401-9

b6
b7C

CORRESPONDENCE

178

50 APR 11 1961

50 APR 6 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

March 24,1961

The Editor,
The Los Angeles Times,
Los Angeles 12, California

[redacted] and John Birch

My interest in the John Birch Society is definitely personal. The phone rings constantly. I wish these " odd-balls" pro or con could spell. b6 b7C

I seem to be the only [redacted] in the telephone directory although my name is spelled with a [redacted]

I am a veteran and a long time member of the American Legion. It may be assumed that I have some interest in keeping tab on persons suspected of treason. Investigation s of such persons, in my opinion, is the duty of John Herbert Hoover and the F.B.I., and if he needs more men let us give them to him. F.B.I. men know their business.

The so-called John Birch Society reminds me of Adolf Hitler at the summit of his career with every citizen viewing his neighbors with suspicion. We are living in the greatest nation the earth has ever known. It is founded upon individual freedom which included free speech and a free press. Let us keep it that way.

b6
b7C

[redacted]

4-1-86 [illegible]

924

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: March 30, 1961

FROM : D. C. Morrell

SUBJECT: [redacted]

[redacted] b6 b7C

By letter dated 3-24-61 correspondent forwarded a copy of a letter which he had sent to the editor of "The Los Angeles Times", Los Angeles, California. In his letter to the editor, he complains that people are bothering him through telephone calls because of the similarity between his name and that of the John Birch for whom the John Birch Society was named. He was complimentary to the FBI in stating that "FBI men know their business."

Bufiles indicate that [redacted] was forwarded a letter in November, 1957, by the Director thanking him for sending a Directory of Conchologists reflecting a list of persons interested in the knowledge and study of mollusks. The Directors name appeared in the Directory. b6 b7C

The John Birch Society was founded in 12-58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anti-communist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower.

RECOMMENDATION

1. It is recommended that correspondent's letter and enclosure not be acknowledged in that he states no reply is needed.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4.1.86 BY [illegible]

62-104[illegible] 925

REC-33

RWE:cjk

66 APR 10 1961

131

EL-136

66 APR 4 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

EX-114

REC- 95 (2-1 -926

April 3, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
APR 3 1961

Dear [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 26, 1961.

While I would like to be of assistance, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed are several items setting forth my views on communism which you may like to have.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
APR 3 - 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)

Director's Speech 10-18-60 The American Legion
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth
Series from Christianity Today

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of the correspondent. American Opinion is published by the John Birch Society. [redacted] question concerning good judgment is being purposely ignored.

b6
b7C

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Gale
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
C. Sullivan
Tram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐ JMM:pak (3) (see next page)

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

Holiday Inn® OF BOULDER

PHONE Hillcrest 3-3322 • TELETYPE BDR 664
800 28TH STREET • BOULDER, COLORADO

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Dussouch
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W. C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

Sunday, March 26, 1961

b6
b7C

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Some time during the last three months of 1960, the writer handed the Postmaster at Monterey, California a copy of American Opinion, with the believe that he would turn it over to your office in that district to be analyzed. Along with this copy was my business card and the business address so that said copy could be returned or a letter to the effect of why it could not be returned. Todate the writer has not received either.

Realizing that you deal with thousands of so called "crack-pots" every day; of late I placed myself in the same class.

The reason for turning this copy over to your office was that I questioned the high percentages being used in comparing Communism in 107 countries over this world. The writer would like to subscribe to this medium providing it is not a pro-communism organ.

EX-114 REC- 95 62-104401-926 APR 6 1961

I am depending on your good judgement and have been waiting for some months to find out what that good judgement is from your point of view.

Sincerely yours,

b6
b7C

YOUR HOST FR

EX-114

REC-60 62-104701-927

April 4, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter postmarked March 28, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

APR 4 3 25 PM '61
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

MAILED 31
APR - 4 1961
COMM-FBI

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (5)
April 1, 1961 LEB Intro
The Communists Are After Our Minds
How To Beat Communism
Series from "Christianity Today"
One Nation's Response To Communism

see NOTE next page

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

SAW:lcl* (3)

Letter to [redacted]

b6
b7C

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Name clarified in phone directory. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

TRUE COPY

3-24-61

Dear Sir,

I am considering joining the John Birch Society for the drive for anti communism I fear of being duped ~~into joining a~~ socalled anti Red organization and actually helping the communist program - I would appreciate any information regarding the John Birch Society as to FBI clearance, Robert Welch, etc for my own personal evaluation that you could give me and answer the question; Is the John Birch Society a subversive or communist organization?

Thank you --

[redacted] b6 b7C

1 true copy
4-3-61
baw

REC- 60 EX-114

62-104401-927

Ack: 4/4/61
SAW:lcl

10 APR 5 1961

[redacted] b6 b7C

4.1.86 Spinnacker

EX-110

REC- 60 62 101401 928

April 3, 1961

[redacted]
U. S. Fleet Training Center
U. S. Naval Station
San Diego 36, California

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

4.1.86 Sprnacpnia

Your letter of March 27, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
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COMM - FBI

APR 3 10 14 AM '61
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Enclosures (5) (Listed next page)

SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

DCL:bew (3)

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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
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63 APR 11 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

[redacted]

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Enclosures
What You can Do To Fight Communism
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
How To Beat Communism
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60
Series From "Christianity Today"

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

TRUE COPY

27 March 1961.

John Edgar Hoover.
U.S. Department of Justice
F. B. I.
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I would like to know what information you could give me concerning the John Birch Society. I have heard quite a lot of this group during the Past three months.

Please send this information to:

[redacted]
U.S. Fleet Training Center
U.S. Naval Station,
San Diego 36, Calif.

Engineer man chief per liaison
b6
b7C

Ack: 4-3 ~~3/31~~/61
DCL:ld

EX-114

REC- 60

62-104401

928

1 true copy
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~~3-30~~-61
DCL/hdw

10 APR 5 1961

4.1.86 Sprmaemke

EX-114

REC- 6 6 104401 939

April 3, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

4-1-86 Spmacpike

Your letter of March 27, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you, and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the organization about which you inquired.

It is always pleasing to receive comments from citizens who demonstrate an awareness of the problems facing this country and a sincere desire to prepare themselves to meet the communist challenge to our freedoms. The Communist Party, USA, has tried to infiltrate every part of our society, but it has not been successful because of our internal security programs; the investigation, arrest and prosecution of a number of Party functionaries; and the rising tide of public opposition to this evil movement. All this has been accomplished in an orderly constitutional fashion and is something of which every American should be proud. We must continue to be alert to these subversive efforts at infiltration.

REC'D-READING ROOM
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MAILED 30
APR - 4 1961
COMM-FBI

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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

1 - Dallas - Enclosure

(Continued on next page)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

HHA:lmy (4)

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I wish to emphasize most strongly that communism is a grave threat to the continued existence of the United States; however, it is doubly imperative that we remain calm, rational and thoroughly accurate in what we say and do in opposing it. This is no time for rumors, unfounded suspicion, gossip and the hurling of false accusations. We must not needlessly divide ourselves. I am sure you will agree with me on this.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles concerning correspondent.

The John Birch Society was founded in 12-58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Dolan
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Walter
Mr. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Holmes

March 27, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I'm writing to ask your help with a problem that has been bothering my whole community lately. We have all become very conscious of the menace of Communism but none of us really know what we, as individuals or groups, can do to fight it.

There is a group, the John Birch Society, dedicated to fighting Communism and making a valiant effort in my eyes but recent events have cast some cloud on this group's name. These events have been the circulation of an alleged list of five Communists in Amarillo naming five of our foremost citizens; and a pitched battle with our local ministers over the infiltration of the National Council of Churches. I would almost say the situation now is one that a real Communist would find ideal - unrest, suspicion, and general bad feeling.

Will you please send me whatever information you have that would help me to find the best leadership and direction for my efforts in fighting Communism. I would also like to know your honest opinion of the John Birch Society.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

b6
b7C

EX-114

REC- 60

62-104401-929

APR 5 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

April 4, 1961

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

I have received the letter postmarked March 27 from your wife and you, and I appreciate the concern which prompted your communication.

While I would like to be of service to you, the FBI, as a strictly investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not furnish evaluations with respect to any individual, organization or publication. From this, I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have information in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

It was indeed thoughtful of you to favorably mention my book, "Masters of Deceit," and I appreciate your expressions of support. In view of your interest I am enclosing a statement I made which you may care to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 31
APR - 4 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosure
LEB Intro, April 1, 1961

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with [redacted] or his wife. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana,
(cont. on next page)

JWO'B:hmm
(3)

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Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

51 APR 11 1961

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by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

[redacted]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Tr[illegible]
Mr. W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

MAR 30 1961

J. Edgar Hoover
F.B.I.

Dear Sir;

Have you any information on the John Birch Society which would influence our joining or not joining same? We would like to be able to defend the Society to our acquaintances and friends, but find it difficult to do so merely on our say-so. There is a strong grass roots movement in this area and we believe that the John Birch Society could be a determining factor in it's success if we could convince the people of the integrity of the Society.

b6
b7C

Respectfully

[redacted]

P.S. Your book, Masters of Deceit is superb. As proud American citizens we want to thank you for your dedicated service during the past years. There are millons of us out here in the sticks who are behind you 100%. Please don't ever resign, but keep up the good work. And Thanks!

REC- 39

62-104401-930

MAR 30 1961

ack 4-4-61

Sprinacynte

CORRESPONDENCE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
APR 2 1961

WESTERN UNION

Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

BIA001 612A EST APR 2 61 WA045

(BI) (P LLE67) NL PD TDP PLYMOUTH MEETING PENN 1

J EDGAR HOOVER

FBI WASHDC

John Birch Society

APROPOS OF YOUR SHARE IN THE UNFORTUNATE PUBLICITY REGARDING JOHN BURKE SOCIETY YOU ARE PAID TO PROTECT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES THAT DOCUMENT GUARANTEES STATED RIGHTS INCLUDING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION TO INDIVIDUALS EVEN WHERE AN INDIVIDUAL MAY FIND HIMSELF OUTNUMBERED BY ALL HIS FELLOW CITIZENS IF ANYONE DESERVES CRITICISM IN THIS MATTER IT IS ANY NEWS COMMENTATOR WHO HAS SUGGESTED THAT DEMOCRACY IS ENDANGERED BY THE JOHN BURKE SOCIETY THERE IS NO MENTION OF DEMOCRACY IN THE SUBSTANCE OF THE CONSTITUTION

[redacted]

REC-65 62-104401-931

b6
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APR 6 1961

To DeLoach memo 4-4-61

63 APR 11 1961

178

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-1-86 BY Spmacmue

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
APR 2 1961

WESTERN UNION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

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DIA001 612A EST APR 2 61 WA045

(BI) (P LLE67) NL PD TDP PLYMOUTH MEETING PENN 1

J EDGAR HOOVER

FBI WASHDC

APROPOS OF YOUR SHARE IN THE UNFORTUNATE PUBLICITY REGARDING JOHN BURKE SOCIETY YOU ARE PAID TO PROTECT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES THAT DOCUMENT GUARANTEES STATED RIGHTS INCLUDING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION TO INDIVIDUALS EVEN WHERE AN INDIVIDUAL MAY FIND HIMSELF OUTNUMBERED BY ALL HIS FELLOW CITIZENS IF ANYONE DESERVES CRITICISM IN THIS MATTER IT IS ANY NEWS COMMENTATOR WHO HAS SUGGESTED THAT DEMOCRACY IS ENDANGERED BY THE JOHN BURKE SOCIETY THERE IS NO MENTION OF DEMOCRACY IN THE SUBSTANCE OF THE CONSTITUTION

b6
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ORIG--MR. MOHR FOR DIRECTOR

4-1-84

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. b6
Tele. b7C
Ingr.
Gandy

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: April 4, 1961

FROM [redacted]

SUBJECT: [redacted]

[redacted]

By telegram dated April 2 captioned individual complains concerning the Director's April Law Enforcement Bulletin introduction. He apparently believes that it was directed against the John Birch Society and he advises Mr. Hoover that he is being paid to protect the Constitution. [redacted] does not ask any questions nor make any requests. Evidently, he is merely using this means of voicing his opinion.

Bufiles contain nothing which is identifiable with [redacted] b6 b7C

In view of the tenor of correspondent's remarks and his opinion, no purpose can be served in entering into an argument with him.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that no acknowledgement be afforded the telegram from [redacted]

HHA:js
(2)

REC- 65 62-104401-932

APR 6 1961

63 APR 11 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-1-86 BY SP Machnik

April 3, 1961

REC-44 62-101401-933

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

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b7C

Your letter of March 24, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

In response to your first inquiry, I would like to advise that the FBI is strictly an investigative agency, and matters relating to deportation are not within the scope of our authority.

With regard to your other question, our responsibilities do not include making evaluations or comments relative to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I hope you will not infer in this connection, however, either that our files do or do not contain data regarding the organization you mentioned.

In view of your interest, I am enclosing some material on the general subject of communism.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
APR 3 - 1961
COMM-FBI

Tolson
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Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (4)
Communist Party, USA
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage
17th Convention, CP USA & 3-60 LEB Intro.
NOTE: Bufiles reflect nothing derogatory regarding correspondent.

66 APR 11 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

SAW:lc (3)

NOTE CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

March 24, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover
United States Dept. of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

In recent study of Communism in the U.S. in our anti-communist study groups in this area a question has come to our attention that we can find no answer to, so thought perhaps your office could help us.

Why is it possible for Harry Bridges to operate in the State of Hawaii at the present time as it was our understanding he was not allowed within the jurisdiction of the United States? I can understand how it was possible before Hawaii was made a state, but not now.

Also we have heard many pro and con statements concerning the John Birch Society. We are interested in having people gain a knowledge of the philosophy of Communism in order to combat it intelligently, but not in a rabble-rousing manner. I would greatly appreciate it if you would give us your help in this matter as we have approximately 20 study groups in this area and are organizing a short study course this summer for our high school graduates who are going on to college. We feel it is very important for these young people to be well-acquainted with communist tactics.

Thank you for your help.
Very truly yours,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

4-1-86 Spmacmre

EX-112

62-104401-4-33

REC-84

4-3-61

REC- 85 62-104401-934

April 4, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 26, 1961, has been received, and I appreciate the confidence you expressed in the FBI. I was glad to have the benefit of your observations and comments.

While I would like to be of aid to you, the FBI, as strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not furnish evaluations or comments relative to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that our files do or do not have data regarding the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is material pertaining to communism and ways to combat it which may be of interest to you.

MAILED 31
APR - 4 1961
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

APR 4 3 32 PM '61
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

Enclosures (5)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Fight Communism
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
Where do We Stand Today with Communism in the US
1-60 LEB Intro & 17th Nat'l Convention

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

SAW:plt
(3)

(Note Continued on next page.)

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C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

55 APR 11

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

TRUE COPY

March 26 - 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In the past several weeks there has been quite a bit of information published and various films being shown out here in the Los Angeles area. All of this having to do with the best ways to fight Communism. This in itself is fine as everyone in the United States should be aware of the very real dangers that face us. There is also quite a number of Organizations etc, as you know, who claim to have but one purpose & that is to stop the spread of Communism.

This is my reason for writing you, these different Organizations & Societies I am sure are not all they seem to be. I have in mind one in particular and that is "The John Birch Society." This one has been receiving quite a build up in this area lately and I am sure has a number of members some of whom are very important people. The "Los Angeles Times," published a number of articles on this "Society" just recently, giving the history of it and the name of its founder, Robert Welch. I read these articles and my imprission was that their intent is no doubt to fight Communism, but their method and the people Mr. Welch accuses of being Communist is just too much for me to take. Their method sort of reminds me of the organization that put Hitler over in Germany back in the early 30's.

I am all for fighting Communism but I don't believe we have to be like them to do it. In fact I don't think we need all those different organizations etc. that are springing up. What we need we already have, all we have to do is to back them up and live accordingly. That is, our religion, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights & the FBI.

I would very much appreciate any information on this you could give me.

REC- 85

Sincerely Yours.

62-104401-934

/s/

b6
b7C

1-TC-4-4-61
ack 4-4-61
SAW/pet

4-1-86

March 31, 1961

REC- 85 6 -104401 - 985

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 22, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 31 1961
COMM-FBI

Tolson
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Conrad
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Ingram
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Enclosures (5)
(listed next page)

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see NEXT PAGE

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

APR 11 1961

Enclosures
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
Communist Party, USA
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Series from "Christianity Today"
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

TRUE COPY

March 22, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover
Director F. B. I.
Washington D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Over a period of time I have come to believe that communism is the enemy of our Republic and that the apathy of the American people will serve their desire to infiltrate the United States. I have read many books and speeches on this subject as well as searching for an organization that would give its sole attention to fighting communism. When I heard about the John Birch Society I joined it. Now I find there are many people who think fighting communism in this manner is worse than communism itself.

Could you give me any clarifying information on the John Birch Society?

Sincerely yours,

/s/ [redacted]

b6
b7C

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ack 3-31-61
del

REC-85 62-104401-935

APR 6 1961

REC-94 62-104401-936

EX-108

March 31, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 24, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest. I have no objections to your sending my letter to the newspapers if you so desire.

MAILED 2
MAR 31 1961
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4) (Listed next page)

see NOTE next page

SAW:lcl* (3)

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C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram

55 APR 11 1961

Letter to [redacted]

b6
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NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

Enclosures
Communist Party, USA
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction

[redacted]

b6
b7C

March 24, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-1-86 BY SP macm

Dear Mr. Hoover:

You are undoubtedly aware of the great amount of newspaper space that has recently been given to the John Birch Society. I understand this is not only true in Southern California but all over the country. This has caused me a great deal of concern because the papers seem to be extremely critical of this group. This seemed to warrant investigation because I am concerned about any group that may be subversive or so-called "Fascist".

To follow through on my inquiry I have attended several meetings, have read the Blue Book, the Story of John Birch, and seen the film by Robert Welch. I have tried to have an open mind and to see the whole picture. My conclusions have been that this group is hard-working; trying to get back to the Constitutional Republic that originally formed our Government; they seek knowledge and education; and then they proceed to do something by taking action in the direction they have set for themselves.

It is difficult for me to understand how I have come to this conclusion when almost all newspaper reports I have read are in complete disagreement with me.

Would you please give me whatever information you can regarding this matter. I would appreciate your letter of reply giving me authority to send your answer to the newspapers.

Thank you for your help. REC- 94 62-104401-936

Sincerely, [redacted] 73 APR 6 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Copy to:
[redacted]

Ack: 3/31/61
Bard. ed

CORRESPONDENCE

REC- 94 62-104701-937

March 31, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your communication of March 23, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry. I am unable, as a matter of policy, to recommend any organizations to you.

Enclosed is literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest. Some of this material contains suggestions as to what we Americans can do.

MAILED 9
MAR 31 1961
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (5)
(listed next page)

RWE:efr*
(3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

see NOTE next page

55 APR 12 1961

MAR 31 4 52 PM '61

TRUE COPY

3/23/61

Dear Sir

I have just seen the movies "Communism on the Map" and "Operation Abolition" and I came away with the desire to do whatever I can to stop the march of atheistic communism. What can I do? Are there any organizations in my area which you endorse or approve that are active in anti-communist activities? What about the John Birtch Society? Do you approve of this group? Please let me know what I can do.

/s/ [redacted]

b6
b7C

John Birch Society

ack 3-31-61 RWE:efa

1 true copy 2/31/61

RWE/del

62-104401-937

APR 3 1961

REC-94

4.1.86

REC-94 938

108

March 31, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 25, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 31 1961
COMM-FBI

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104101)

RWE:lcl* (3)

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Tele. Room
Ingram
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MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

50 APR 12 1961

b6
b7C

2 [redacted]
3

March 25, 1961

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I hope you will not mind my writing you on a matter of grave concern to me. It is imperative to my peace of mind that I have an authoritative answer to my question -- that is why I have chosen to write to you for help. YOU are the ONE person on whose word I know I can rely when it comes to matters involving loyalty to the United States.

Recently my husband and I were invited to join a chapter of the John Birch Society here in Baton Rouge. After attending several meetings as guests and reading their Bluebook and other material supplied by the organization, we decided to join because we were convinced that they were truly interested in fighting the Communist threat in our country and would probably be the best outlet through which we could use our energies in meeting this threat.

I have no doubt but what the people in our local chapter are patriotic Americans sincere in their belief that they are fighting communism in the best way they can. I also find it hard to believe that anyone with such conservative views and apparent complete dedication to this fight as Robert Welch expresses in all his writings could possibly be insincere. BUT, lately I have been stunned by unfavorable publicity in some newspapers and national magazines (TIME is one) which accuse or insinuate that the John Birch Society itself is Communist inspired and is only using its anti-communism theme as a "front".

Of course, Mr. Welch has pointed out that as we become more effective in our fight against the Communists they will attempt to discredit our organization in any way they can -- and I sincerely hope that this is the case for it will mean that we are succeeding.

If there is any question about the motives and/or loyalty of the John Birch Society, then my husband and I want no part of it. If, however, it IS the patriotic organization which we believed it to be when we joined, then we will be proud to participate enthusiastically in its program regardless of any smear campaigns against it. We would appreciate it very much if you could enlighten us on this subject.

REC-94 62-104401-938

APR 6 1961

Yours very truly,

EX-108

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Ack: 3/31/61
RWE: ice

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-7-86 BK/DMacmke

CONFIDENCE

Enclosures
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Director's Speech 10-18-60
Communist Party, USA
Expose of Soviet Espionage
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

EX-114

REC- 94

62 104 401-939

March 31, 1961

REGISTERED

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 24, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed are four copies of our report entitled "Communist Target--Youth." There is no charge for any material this Bureau is privileged to distribute; therefore, the dollar you enclosed is being returned.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

716207

MAILED 31
MAR 31 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)
Correspondent's enclosed dollar
4 copies Communist Target--Youth

see NOTE next page

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Walter
Sullivan
Room

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

3 APR 11 1961

SAW:121* (3)

[redacted] b6
b7C

March 24, 1961

Office of
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
F.B.I.
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

I would appreciate your furnishing me with four copies of Mr. Hoover's report on the student riots in San Francisco last May. I believe this is report #57964. I also believe the price is .25¢ per copy. If I am in-correct then please forward whatever number the enclosed $1.00 will cover.

I would also appreciate your advices as to whether or not there is anything wrong with being a member of The John Birch Society, this question is being asked due to my interest in the book I am now reading by Mr. Hoover - Master of Deceit, and the fact that there are quite a few comments being made in current papers and publications regarding this society.

Very truly yours,

[redacted] b6
b7C

sf

ENCLOSURE Returned

REC- 94 EX-114

Ack: 3/31/61
SAW: lee

62-104401-939

APR 6 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

[redacted] b6 b7C

March 31, 1961

Hon. James O. Eastland
Chairman, Senate Internal
Security Committee
Senate Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

4-1-86 SPMacmxe

Dear Senator Eastland:

According to an article "Special to the Herald-Express" of Los Angeles, of above date, You have not been asked to investigate the John Birch Society. Although I am at a loss to understand why anybody should consider it necessary to investigate an organization dedicated to more individual responsibility, less government, and a better world, I must apologize for not thinking to invite you to investigate it, inasmuch as I have written to my representative, Hon. James Corman, suggesting that he introduce a resolution authorizing the House Committee on un-American Activities to investigate.

As a member of this organization, I have seen three films, including "Communism on the Map," "Operation Abolition", and an address by Mr. Robert Welch. I have read the Blue Book, the White Book (a collection of back issues of the monthly bulletins), and the current monthly bulletins, all of which came to me through the United States mails. I have read some other publications recommended by the Society, and because I have a probing, analytical mind, I read some others not recommended by the Society, but which can be purchased openly, or ordered through the mails. These include books written by cabinet members, generals, newspapermen, and Congressmen. A sample is enclosed.

I have written to some members of Congress, opposing or favoring certain legislation, and suggesting other legislation. Carbon copies of this correspondence are available, as well as the replies, if any, from public officials.

Please notify me if you feel that I, as a member, should be investigated. Because of failing health, I had planned to be away for the summer, but I would not want to appear to shirk my duty in any way.

REC-94 9-101

EX-114

Sincerely yours

[redacted] b6 b7C

CC: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
CC: Mr. Robert Welch
CC: [redacted]

Letter to [redacted]

b6
b7C

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

EX-114

REC-94 62-104401-941

March 30, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 21, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 30 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (4)
(listed next page)
see NOTE next page

RWE:efr*

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

53 APR 11 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FBI

Enclosures
Communist Party, USA
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Beat Communism
Director's Speech 10-18-60

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Name verified by telephone directory check.
The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

TRUE COPY

Lewisburg Tenn
March 21-1961

Dear Mr. Hoover-

O Please send me this information Is the John Birch Society fully an American Society in opposition to communist propoganda. The names of some are included in its record. That surely there can be no doubt about surely.

Respet_
yours

[redacted] b6
b7C

K

EX-114

REC-94

62-104401-941

APR 6 1961

One True Copy
March 29, 1961
S.H.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-1-86 BY [illegible]

EX-114

REC-94 62-104401-942

April 4, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 27, with enclosure, and do appreciate the grave concern which prompted your communication.

While I would like to be of service to you, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject about which you inquired.

In view of your interest, I am enclosing a recent statement of mine which you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 31
APR - 4 1961
COMM-FBI

REC'D-READING ROOM
F B I

APR 4 3 01 PM '61

Enclosure
April, 1961, LEB Introduction

NOTE: Correspondent was not identifiable in Bufiles. Her enclosure was an article which appeared in the "Dallas Texas Herald" concerning the John Birch Society.

HHA:jab
(3)

Note continued next page

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
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Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

55 APR 12 1961

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana. by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

[redacted]

b6
b7C

March 27, 1961.

[redacted]

Dear Mr. Hoover,

The inclosed article speaks for itself.

To me, the statements are apalling, but the idea of " cleaning up " appealing. I think a great many people suffer the same confusion and frustration due to the individual's inability to check the facts.

John O

Who is behind the Birch Society? What group controls it? What is their true purpose? Are their shocking statements true, or is it still another " divide and conquer " program?

Trite as it may sound, I love my country and have fought in all the conventional ways to preserve it's system for our children, ages six and eight. I worked for General Eisenhower's election because, to the best of my knowledge, he is more conservative than Mr. Stevenson. Milton Eisenhower's philosophy was relatively unknown and unrelated to the issue.

Ignorance and innocence are equally deadly. If the statements in this article are true, thousands of people spent millions of hours furthering the very influences they were trying to fight. If the statements are completely false, why don't the Eisenhowers sue for slander, libel,

nml
ack 4/4/61 HHA/jok

MAR 29 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

and defamation of character?

I know how busy you are, and appreciate the difficulties of your position, but could you answer me unoffically, as one individual to another? You obviously subscribe to the theory that " it is better to light one candle than to curse the darkness." Thank you for your concern and protection of this country.

Gratefully...and Humbly,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

p.s. Hope I spelled "Humbly" correctly - I've never used it before!

P. S. Hope I spelled "Humbly" correctly - I've never used it before!

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

b6
b7C

ENCLOSURE

REC- 94
EX-114

62-104401-942

17 APR 6 1961

8/H.H.A.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-1-86 Springmeier

Red-Hating Group Snowballing Here?

By SETH KANTOR
Staff Writer

Is Dallas fast becoming a major center in the nation for retired New England businessman Robert Welch and his fiercely anti-communist John Birch Society?

Mr. Welch, 61, has labeled former President Eisenhower a man of "treason." One of his society's major goals is to impeach Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren.

John Birch was an American missionary who became a World War II Army captain and spy in China. He was bayonetted to death by the Chinese Communists.

His name is being used by members of Welch's group as a symbol of their anger about "things wrong with America."

GROWS IN TEXAS

Mr. Welch has been quoted in a Boston newspaper as saying Texas is "one of the three major membership centers" of the society in the nation.

Dallasite Earl Thornton of 2317 E. 11th is a rank-and-file member. He estimates there are 10 chapters of the society in Dallas, with 15 to 30 members in each. Like every member talked to, he said the society is "mushrooming here."

"It's gotten ~~four times~~ bigger just since I joined in January," he said.

One of the society's Dallas chapters plans to meet Monday night at the home of Don Smith, 1428 Boca Chica Drive.

DULLES 'RED AGENT'

The March 10 edition of Time magazine quoted Mr. Welch on these people: The late John Foster Dulles—"A Communist agent"; Dwight Eisenhower—"There is only one possible word to describe his purposes and his actions. That word is treason"; Milton Eisenhower—"He is actually Dwight Eisenhower's superior and boss within the Communist Party."

Guiding the society's actions is Welch's "Blue Book."

Stuart G. Swenson of 426 Town Creek, a "coordinator" of the society of Dallas, said Saturday: "I'm told, since that article in Time, there have been 30,000 requests for Blue Books for new members."

Mr. Swenson is one of four coordinators in Dallas. Two live in Oak Cliff. Two live in North Dallas.

SOCIETY IN DALLAS

What you are reading is the first pinpointed information about the society in Dallas, how it works and what their members say.

The group was founded in 1958 with the avowed purpose of impeaching Chief Justice Warren and destroying communism. Mr. Welch prefers to run the society strictly. Dallas coordinator Swenson said every member must first agree that he can be "drummed out of the organization without being given a reason."

Democracy is "a perennial fraud," said Mr. Welch. He estimates the nation is 40 to 60 per cent under Communist control. He issues monthly "projects" for members.

MOVIE 'PLOT'

"One project," said Mr. Thornton, "was to tell the people about the Communistic-inspired plot by those who claimed John Wayne's movie, 'The Alamo,' was a box-office flop. It was the Communist way of getting rid of a great, patriotic movie. It was a plot against letting Americans see the picture."

Projects have included a demand for the investigation of the "Communist influence at Valsar." Another, handed down by Mr. Welch, called for a watch on churches; "Some preachers actually use their pulpits to preach outright communism."

Don Smith, who will host the Birch Society meeting in Dallas Monday night, said Saturday that "as a chapter head, I must devote time to the investigation of people, a search for Communists."

SOME ANTI-REDS SUSPECT?

Mr. Smith also thinks some outspoken anti-Communists "ought to be investigated carefully before they're allowed to join us."

He mentioned the White Citizens Council.

Rev. Carey Daniel, key figure in the White Citizens Council of Dallas, a white supremacy group, was lavish in his praise of the Birch Society when The Times Herald questioned him.

Dallas Herald
March 26, 1961

62-104401-942

ENCLOSURE

"God bless all John Birch members," he said. "Please say that the White Citizens Council is backing them 100 per cent. I am thinking of joining."

Of member Thornton, Rev. Daniel said: "He's the good Earl opposing the bad Earl (Warren)."

MOVIES, TAPES

Mr. Thornton volunteers his time away from his electric company business showing John Birch Society films and playing tapes. The tapes mostly contain Welch speeches. The films are in color and in black and white.

"I show one that lasts four hours," he said. "It tells the story of the international Communistic plot."

Mr. Thornton said that since becoming a member, he's "able to tell in 30 minutes of conversation now whether a person is a Communist or not. You can tell by the socialist things they believe in.

"If they like too much government, they're socialists."

'INDEPENDENT THINKERS'

Upper-echelon Dallas members tell you first-off they think as individuals. But coordinator Swenson said Saturday he had "placed a call to Mr. Welch in Massachusetts before going to see a certain movie to learn his opinion of it."

A lifetime membership in the Society costs $1,000. Otherwise, you can join for $2 monthly dues if you're a man, of $1 a month if you're a woman.

"You are required to do one of 10 recommended things by Mr. Welch if you are to remain a member," explains Mr. Thornton. He did not outline the 10. He said he chose one of them: "Letter writing."

400 LETTERS

Members stay busy writing letters, mostly to congressmen and senators. Rep. Ted Springer of Amarillo said he got more than 400 letters "just in one weekend this month" from members.

Society officers, coordinators, chapter leaders and "faculty leaders" are not elected. They are appointed. The national policy has been to keep their names secret.

Coordinator Swenson said: "Sen. (the late Joseph) McCarthy's work was destroyed by a well-organized plot. His investigation into communism fell apart. American people have been afraid since. I dream that his sort of investigation can be resumed.

"We're not a political organization by any means. We're just good old American people."

REC- 92 62-104401-943 April 4, 1961

EX-130 [redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 28, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated. I want to thank you for your kind remarks.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 31
APR - 4 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)
Communist Party, USA
LEB Intro: 4-61 Communist
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Series from "Christianity Today"

see NOTE next page

RWE:lcl* (3)

Tolson
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Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

55 APR 13 1961

b6
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FBI - READING ROOM
APR 4 3 59 PM '61

Letter to [redacted]

b6
b7C

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

March 28, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

I have become very aware of the great threat of international communism to our beloved United States of America and I as a patriotic American want to do everything in my power to deter this action. I wrote the Committee on Un-American Activities for some information and in this material was a statement on How To Fight Communism. The first step was to Get The Facts. I would appreciate if you would send me all the available information you have on Communism, its strategy and tactics; line on its current national and international affairs; and major Communist fronts and of leading Communists and fellow travelers.

In the papers and on the radio and television here in Houston, I have heard many varied statements concerning The John Birch Society. I would appreciate if you would send me some information concerning this organization and its founder Robert Welsh.

I have great confidence in you and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In the past you and your staff have accomplished a tremendous task and I want to wish you God's blessings in protecting these our United States in the present and future.

Very sincerely yours,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

cw/cw

Ack: 41 161
RWE: lcl

62-104401-943

REC-32

APR 6 1961

Spinoza CORRESPONDENCE

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 4/7/61

FROM: SAC, WFO (62-D)

SUBJECT: THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION
CONCERNING

Enclosed for the Bureau are 5 copies each of a letterhead memo and a letterhead memo of evaluation, captioned as above.

[redacted] b6 b7C b7D

The letterhead memo is classified ~~"[illegible]"~~ since information contained therein could reasonably result in the identification of a source of continuing value and compromise the future effectiveness thereof.

2-Bureau (Enc-5) 1cc + 1cc encs Rm 1259
2-WFO
[redacted] remaining ccs encs destroyed.

RFB:cas
(4)

b2 b6 b7C b7D

no dissemination indicated

EX-114

REC- 87

62-104401-944

4 APR 7 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

51 APR 13 1961

4/14/86
Classified by Ipmacore
Declassify on: CADR
#220504

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

April 7, 1961

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

The John Birch Society was formed in December, 1958, in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts.

[redacted]

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

#220504
4-14-86

~~ENCLOSURE~~

ENCLOSURE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

62-104401-944

FD-323 (3-28-60)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Washington 25, D.C.
April 7, 1961

Title THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

Character

Reference Memorandum dated April 7, 1961, dated and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) used in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

ENCLOSURE
62-104401-944

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

62-104401-945

April 5, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 28 and do appreciate the interest which prompted your communication.

Although I would like to be of service to you, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files concerning the organization about which you inquired.

In view of your interest, I am enclosing one of my statements which you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 31
APR - 5 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosure
April, 1961, LEB Introduction

NOTE: Correspondent not identifiable in Bufiles.

HHA:jab
(3)

Note continued next page

66 APR 12 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

APR 5 3 42 PM '61
FBI
RECORD-READING ROOM

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

To The Commercial Appeal:

I believe that the average American citizen wants to fight communism but does not know how. Here are seven concrete steps we can take.

Attend Sunday School and church as a family.

Encourage your schools and civic clubs to stress patriotism.

Be proud of your country. Display the flag on all appropriate occasions, and attend patriotic meetings.

Guide your children in their choice of movies, television and books.

Use the public library to learn what communism really is.

Keep a supply of post cards to write your senators and congressmen on ideas of good government.

Vote in all elections.

I suggest the reader cut these out and place them where they can be a daily reminder; fighting communism is a progressive thing.

b6
b7C

62-104401-893

ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-1-86 BY [illegible]

1tc jms
nml
ack
3-23-61
RWE: jms

3-24-61

~~CODE~~ Plain

Teletype ~~RADIOGRAM~~

DEFERRED

REC-14 62-104401-894

EX-114

TO SAC INDIANAPOLIS

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

[redacted] INFORMATION CONCERNING, RESEARCH (CORRESPONDENCE AND TOURS SECTION) BY LETTER RECEIVED MARCH TWENTY-THREE, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE, [redacted] ADVISED HE IS MEMBER OF THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY (JBS) AND INDICATED HE INTENDS TO VISIT INDIANAPOLIS OFFICE ON MARCH TWENTY-SEVEN, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE TO DISCUSS THIS ORGANIZATION. [redacted] PREVIOUSLY WROTE TO ME ON MARCH FIFTEEN, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE, REQUESTING INFORMATION REGARDING JBS AND I REPLIED ON MARCH TWENTY-THREE, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE, THAT FBI DOES NOT MAKE EVALUATIONS REGARDING ORGANIZATIONS. YOU SHOULD FURNISH NO COMMENTS REGARDING JBS TO [redacted] IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS IN SAC LETTER SIXTY-ONE - FOURTEEN (D).

b6
b7C

b6
b7C

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

AFH:JO
(4)

NOTE: See Jones to DeLoach memo dated 3-24-61 captioned [redacted] AFH:jo

APR 5 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAR 24 1961

TELETYPE

DEFERRED 3-24-61 9-44 PM JSA

TO SAC INDIANAPOLIS

FROM DIRECTOR 1 P

[redacted] INFORMATION CONCERNING, RESEARCH /CORRESPONDENCE AND TOURS SECTION/ BY LETTER RECEIVED MARCH TWENTY-THREE, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE, [redacted] ADVISED HE IS MEMBER OF THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY /JBS/ AND INDICATED HE INTENDS TO VISIT INDIANAPOLIS OFFICE ON MARCH TWENTY-SEVEN, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE TO DISCUSS THIS ORGANIZATION. [redacted] PREVIOUSLY WROTE TO ME ON MARCH FIFTEEN, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE, REQUESTING INFORMATION REGARDING JBS AND I REPLIED ON MARCH TWENTY-THREE, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE, THAT FBI DOES NOT MAKE EVALUATIONS REGARDING ORGANIZATIONS. YOU SHOULD FURNISH NO COMMENTS REGARDING JBS TO [redacted] IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS IN SAC LETTER SIXTY-ONE-FOURTEEN /$/// /D/.

b6
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b7C

END PLS ACK

OK FBI IP HGB

TU DISCM

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: March 24, 1961

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: [redacted]

b6
b7C

On 3-23-61 a letter signed by captioned individual enclosing a business card of the [redacted] and a newspaper clipping regarding the John Birch Society was received by the Director. [redacted] indicated in his letter he had joined a "Birch Chapter" on 3-5-61 and asks whether he would be helping the fight against communism by working with the organization. He stated he plans to visit the Indianapolis Office of the FBI on 3-27-61 to discuss the John Birch Society.

Bufiles show [redacted] wrote the Director on 3-15-61 enclosing material regarding the John Birch Society and inquiring about it. By letter of 3-23-61 the Director advised [redacted] that the FBI does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

b6
b7C

OBSERVATION:

Since the reply to [redacted] initial communication makes it clear that no information can be furnished by the FBI regarding the John Birch Society, there is no apparent reason to acknowledge his second letter.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) Attached radiogram advising Indianapolis Division of [redacted] intention to inquire about the John Birch Society on 3-27-61 be approved.

b6
b7C

(2) No acknowledgment be made to [redacted] letter received 3-23-61.

EX-114

62-104401-894

REC- 4

10 MAR 30 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-1-86 BY [illegible]

AFH:jo
(3)

DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. Jones
Mr. W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

25 MAR 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover: I wrote you last week, and sent clipping from the Louisville Times, here is another on the Birch Society.

John

I joined a Birch Chapter 3-5-61, and would like to know if they are Loyal, and would I be helping the fight against Communism, by working with them, and doing what I can, to stop Creeping Socialism, and also Communism.

I plan to stop at your office, Indianapolis, Monday, 3-27,61, to discuss with your folks. Some things came up at two meetings. I would like to cover. I know you cannot give out information, but, I want to work with a thoroly American group, and want no part of lies, and smears.

Can you help, please.

[redacted]

Jones to DeLoach memo 3-24-61 AFH/JO

Radiogram to Indiap. 3-24-61 AFH/JO

ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-1-86 BY [illegible]

66 APR 5 1961

37

EXP PROC MAR 28 1961

b6
b7C

EX-114

REC-4 62-104401-895

25 MAR 30 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

8/[illegible]

Presbyterian Raps Birch Society

3-20-61
Louisville Times

Santa Barbara, Calif., March 20 (AP)—The chief executive officer of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. says that the John Birch Society is waging "campaigns of falsehoods" against the church.

Dr. Eugene Carson Blake said yesterday that the extreme right-wing organization is engaged in a plan to smear leaders of the Presbyterian Church and the National Council of Churches as being sympathetic to Communism.

He called this "bearing false witness." The Los Angeles churchman, the Presbyterians' stated clerk, told members of the Presbyterian Church of Santa Barbara:

"I challenge this congregation to wake up to what is happening to you under the guise of anti-Communism. A free church with a free pulpit governed under constitutional law, along with a free nation under a free Constitution, is the best resistance there could be against Communist totalitarianism.

"Don't let your Americanism and your Presbyterianism be corrupted by those who would substitute a fuehrer principal for our free society."

The John Birch Society, named for a man killed by the Chinese Communists, is a group which claims to fight Communinist infiltration. Among prominent U.S. citizens it has termed to be Communist dupes are former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Harry Truman and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

62-104401-895

ENCLOSURE

②

NOTICE

One copy of this brochure is being supplied free to every member of the Society. And we shall also make a certain additional amount of free distribution of the brochure from the Home Office.

But since we simply cannot afford the cost of the quantities that we know will be requested, we are obliged to make a charge for all copies except those indicated in the first paragraph above. We are, however, for obvious reasons keeping this charge just as close to the actual printing cost as we dare.

This is to advise all concerned, therefore, that the price of *The New Brochure* is ten cents per copy, in quantities of any size, large or small. Minimum shipment is ten copies for one dollar. Simply address:

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
BELMONT 78, MASSACHUSETTS

Application For Membership

_____, 19

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
Belmont 78, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

This is my application for membership in the _____ Chapter of THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY, for one year from this date, and for automatic renewal each year thereafter, unless I resign in writing. I understand the dues schedule printed on the back of this sheet, as applicable to myself.

If my application is accepted, I agree that my membership may be revoked at anytime, by a duly appointed officer of the Society, without the reason being stated, on refund of the pro rata part of my dues paid in advance.

Sincerely,

(Name)_____

(Address)_____

_____

Date _____

Application Approved By_____

Dues Received _____

Title _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-1-86 BY [illegible]

DUES SCHEDULE

Life membership in the Home Chapter, (which automatically covers membership in any local chapter), for men or women $1,000.00
(This may be paid in two consecutive annual installments of $500.00 each.)

Regular annual membership in the Home Chapter	For men	$24.00
	For women . . .	12.00

Membership in a local chapter, minimum per year:	For men	$24.00
	For women. . . .	12.00

(This may be paid as $2.00 per month for men, and $1.00 per month for women, to the local Chapter Leader.)

If any member wishes to pay larger dues, to support the Society's work (or to make contributions for that purpose), such dues or contributions may also be split into monthly installments if desired.

(Applications for membership in local chapters should be approved by the Chapter Leader. Applications for membership in the Home Chapter will be approved by the home office.)

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

INCORPORATED

From Our Mail

These messages and extracts are selected from the thousands that now pour in on us every month. Though much too flattering, they do not feed our vanity, we can assure you. Instead, they increase our solemn consciousness of the staggering responsibility we have assumed. But they do make the unceasing hard work seem all the more worth while, and strengthen our determination to live up to that responsibility so far as it is humanly possible, with God's help, to do so. We reprint these comments here in the hope that our members, and many friends and prospective members, will share with us the inspiration received from such words of

APPRECIATION and ENCOURAGEMENT

"Since the day I saw the tape, where you appeared on the screen, I have intended to write you --

"If people who see and hear you, on that tape (film), are not stirred to their very souls, to want to be a part of this great work you are doing, there must be something wrong --"

A Housewife In California

"Again, may I thank you for all that you have done and are continuing to do, not only for me, but for this *wonderful country of ours -- somehow I feel that its* destiny lies a great deal in your hands."

A Student At Yale

"It is indeed good to belong to an active, directed unit of a growing army in this struggle with the Communists, and we are deeply grateful for the superb quality of the strategy, direction, and dedication provided by your leadership."

A Working Mother In Wisconsin

"My wife and I have never been so inspired as by your program and by the potential of what can be accomplished through The John Birch Society."

A Business Executive In Arizona

4-1-96 [illegible]

CHARLES RICHARDSON, JR.

P. O. BOX 2052
CARMEL, CALIFORNIA

3 November 1960

Dear Mr. Welch:

History has conclusively demonstrated that the one thing which the human family is ubable to overcome, is the disease and decay which inevitably result from too much materialistic luxury.

In spite of eight years of Eisenhower, with your help I have tried to maintain optimism, but the spectacle which confronts us next Tuesday is such that it seems crystal clear that we are witnessing the final stages of our beloved nation.

I am eternally grateful that it has been my personal privilege to have lived during an era which produced such courageous patriots, possessing absolute integrity, faith, terrific mental capacity and other important qualities of character, including sense of humor etc., such as you have always symbolized.

I am particularly thankful for having been privileged to have read your many superb writings, and am only sorry that it was not my additional privilege to have known you personally.

Thank you sir for the truly great and heroic battle which you have so unselfishly fought at terrific personal sacrifice, for our beloved nation. Looking at the candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency it is quite apparent that the battle you have been waging is temporarily lost, but the seeds you have sown, will bear fruit "somewhere" in the years that lie ahead.

With my admiration, respect and warm personal regards and appreciation, I am

Sincerely,

CHARLES RICHARDSON, JR.

Robert Welch, Esquire,
c/o The John Birch Society, Inc.,
Belmont 78, Mass.

"I pray for you very often."

A Fundamentalist Protestant In Massachusetts

"You are constantly in my prayers."

A Catholic Priest In Connecticut

" -- the John Birch Society, the best citizen-patriot program I know of to save America."

A Famous Editor In Tennessee

"Every day in every way I'm more and more convinced that our Society, with you at the helm guiding its destiny, is mankind's last great hope for survival."

A Teacher In Arkansas

"I'm certainly thankful that you introduced us to the John Birch Society. I'm in it with both feet now. I'm leading a chapter; as well as showing Communism On The Map and giving an introductory presentation to the Society to groups of people, about twice a week. We have had several successful local projects. I think this is really our one last hope."

From A Businessman In California,
To His Friend In Tennessee

"When I first joined The John Birch Society I objected to the words "traitor" and "treason" in our booklets, but now I don't believe these terms are strong enough to describe the actions of our officials in the State Department, etc. These people must be damned for the rats that they are."

From Wichita, Kansas

"May God bless you, Mr. Welch! A very short time ago I was too busy -- cleaning house, caring for my family, playing bridge, etc., completely oblivious to what was <u>really</u> happening to this wonderful country of ours, and now I'm striving hard to learn all of the things I should have been knowing for the past ten or fifteen years -- as a member of the Society. We should get down on our knees to thank God that America has such men as you -- and I do!!"

From Arcadia, California

"This is the first anti-Communist organization which to me has a definite plan of action at which everyone can work."

From Acton, Indiana

"Mr. Welch -- Please know how much this society means to me. *My first and lasting impression after seeing your filmed speech was --* 'This is the beginning of "the road back."' May God reward you for your personal sacrifice of income, time, and self. Would that each of

Diocese of Wichita
445 NORTH EMPORIA AVENUE
Wichita 2, Kansas

Diocesan Chancery

October 7, 1960

Mr. Kenneth L. Meyers
1427 North Holyoke
Wichita 8, Kansas

Dear Friend Kenneth:

Thank you very much for your gracious visit of Friday morning. I was very happy to meet with you and your good friend to discuss the important need in America at the moment--the virtue of patriotism and a renewed dedication to the sacred ideals of the United States of America.

I have read carefully your description and the purposes of The John Birch Society. The twelve principles describing the general philosophy of the Society are nothing more than the Ten Commandments of God in modern language.

I am returning your materials as promised and I enclose a small check in the amount of ten dollars ($10) for the John Birch Society.

With every good wish, I remain

Your devoted friend,

Mark K. Carroll

Most Rev. Mark K. Carroll,
Bishop of Wichita

MKC:bh
Enc.

us could emulate your example. As a mother of five . . . . . , I feel deeply that I cannot go to my grave without trying to help give this world back to God who made it. Do not feel you need make any reply to this note."

From Bellaire, Texas

"I shall consider it a high privilege to work as a member of The John Birch Society."

"An invitation to join The John Birch Society is an answer to an earnest prayer that I might be of some service toward helping to restore good government and all the other things that this society stands for. I shall do everything required of me to be an enthusiastic and consecrated member."

Separate Messages From Husband And Wife In Houston, Texas

"I am terribly discouraged, but the activities of The John Birch Society give me one ray of hope."

From Skaneateles, New York

"With each day that passes I am more convinced of the necessity and merit of The John Birch Society. The immensity of Mr. Welch's undertaking and his dedicated leadership is an inspiration."

From Newington, Virginia

"Since joining the John Birch Society I believe the United States will survive the Communists' threat. Before I couldn't see how in the world we could combat traitors in government schools, churches, etc. Thank God for John Birch -- I'm with you 100% and I'm getting other Americans to join."

From La Canada, California

"Thought you might like to have a copy of the personal message from me to each of the delegates to the All-American Conference Annual Meeting at Kansas City which is scheduled to take place on November 10-11-12. It is my plan to insert a copy with each of your wonderful 'A WORLD GONE CRAZY' magazines, 250 copies of which reached me in the morning's deliveries.

"It is with pleasure that I enclose my check to cover the amounts stated in the attached duplicate invoices."

From New Bedford, Massachusetts

"I have clipped out the articles in the Boston Herald about you and the work you are doing to bring us back to what I knew fifty to eighty years ago. If the John Birch Society will only continue to work for the two things: fight Communism and work for less government, more individual responsibility, and a better world, some day we can be saved. With deep respect for a fighting, old fashioned real American . . . ."

From Nashua, New Hampshire

An Error Corrected . . .

An Editors' Note

Recent controversy over the John Birch Society has resulted in a situation which the Sunflower sincerely regrets.

The situation arose from the "Inquiring Reporter" column, conducted by *Jack Robbins*, a Sunflower staff member, and which appeared in the Nov. 15 issue of *this newspaper*.

A "student" who gave his name as Thomas Goodwin, Business senior, and who was quoted as alleging that ". . . the anti-semitism that characterizes some of their literature, condemns the entire group," does not exist. Officials in the Registrar's Office have confirmed that no person by that name is registered here.

In fact, it is not now known whether or not a Thomas Goodwin does exist at all. But, the Sunflower published the name of the individual in good faith, particularly since he identified himself as a WU student.

In reporting student comments, the Sunflower does not determine in advance how much knowledge the various students have about the questions posed. The Sunflower, instead, strives to present at random what views any student *may hold on a particular subject* and airs them in a public forum type of column.

The reporter and the Sunflower apparently were the victims either of a campus prankster or of a hoax, and in being one of the victims, the paper inadvertently reproduced in print an allegation that subsequent investigation by the reporter showed to be unfounded.

In the words of Robbins, the reporter, "As far as I now know there is nothing anti-semitic in the literature of the John Birch Society."

The Sunflower regrets that this item in its inquiring reporter column was published under the banner of a student's opinion when it was not and that the material contained in the comment is not true, according to members of the Society and according to the reporter who made further and later investigation.

Indeed, the Sunflower regrets it whenever it, or any other newspaper, inadvertently publishes an irresponsible statement of whatever nature.

The Editors

THE SUNFLOWER

Member Associated Collegiate Press
and
Intercollegiate Press

Subscription Price $3.00 per Year

MEMBER

006 Commons Bldg. Wichita 8, Kansas MU 3-7561, Ext. 348

Official student newspaper of the University of Wichita. Founded in 1896 and published each Tuesday and Friday morning during the school year by students of the Department of Journalism of the University of Wichita except on and during holidays, vacations, and examination periods.

Second class postage paid at Wichita, Kansas.

Advertising rates and publication schedules furnished upon request. Address The Sunflower, University of Wichita, Wichita 8, Kansas.

Editor ..... **Bill Bidwell**

Business Manager ..... **Al Higdon**

Editorial Staff: Managing Editor, Vaughn Sink; News Editor, Sharon Monasmith; Desk Editors Jim Collier, Fran Smith; Makeup Editors, Shirley Sears, Alberto Rojas, Elvira Valenzuela; Sports Editor, Tommy Vanderhoofven; Assistant Sports Editor, Bob Young; Photo Editor, Gary Herlocker; Assistant Photo Editor, Pat Stevens; Society Editor, Jan Fritz; Assistant Society Editor, Marilyn Kinney

Business Staff: Assistant Business Manager, Fred Haag; Salesman, Sharon Bayouth; Circulation Manager, Charles Dallas.

"I'm so happy to be a part of the John Birch Society, as for two months before I heard of it I was fighting in the dark -- by writing my congressmen, newspaper, etc. -- but I felt so all alone by doing so. Now I feel as though I'm hitting at the right place at the right time.

"Thank you so much for all you're doing to lead us."

From Bellaire, Texas

"It is wonderful to see that our voice is being heard. If there were not fear of us we would surely be ignored as in the past, but thanks to your organization and leadership we are finally getting through and IT'S ABOUT TIME!"

From Pasadena, California

"Keep giving it straight -- the truth will eventually penetrate, the smears and castigations mean nothing -- facts and the truth are the only important items."

From Shelburn, Indiana

"God Bless the Society. You, Mr. Welch, and all our associates are doing a magnificent job for our great Nation. I wish I could contribute a hundred, a thousand times what I do."

From West De Pere, Wisconsin

"In order to fight Communism effectively, we must be as militant for our country as they are militant for Soviet Russia. The John Birch Society is a step in the right direction and I am proud to be a member."

From New York City

"We have long wanted an organization with leadership and purpose to coordinate our efforts in behalf of America. We have just that in the John Birch Society. God Bless you for your dedication and I am proud to add my meager efforts to those who must stand or fall -- proudly -- in this 'give us liberty or give us death' battle."

From Unionville, Connecticut

"Keep up the good work. My prayers are with you."

(And A Contribution Too) From Dallas, Texas

"I endorse your policy of speaking forthrightly and firmly without engaging in euphemisms. We are dealing with an enemy who lacks any ethical sensitivity. We are at war with him, not might be or will be. We have to use war tactics."

From St. Augustine, Florida

"Being a new member I have no comments other than to wish that the John Birch Society had started much sooner. We have needed something of this kind for a long time. I would say it is the duty of

THE NATIONAL PROGRAM letter

A Monthly Letter of thought and opinion about America's problems . . .

TO STRENGTHEN AND SAFEGUARD the [illegible] of AMERICAN FREEDOM

PROTECTING OUR FREEDOM

Many Americans who have been watching the relentless expansion of Communist power throughout the world are gravely concerned for the future of our nation — and mankind's freedom. They are aware that in 40 years of extraordinary success the Communists have already achieved most of Lenin's blueprint for conquest, which has been summarized and paraphrased as follows: "First, we will take eastern Europe; next, the masses of Asia; then we shall encircle that last bastion of capitalism, the United States of America. We shall not have to attack; it will fall like an overripe fruit into our hands."

With infiltration, control of propganda outlets, and cunning political maneuvering — while our nation looked on with only mild interest — the Communists gobbled up eastern Europe; then most of the masses of Asia, including China's 500 million. And now we witness Cuba, 90 miles from Florida, being converted into a Communist stronghold, the base for widespread Latin American activities. Thus Lenin's blueprint for expansion, no matter how fantastic it may have sounded through the years, has become a reality. The U. S. A. is encircled, and within our borders the Communists are undermining our will to resist.

Freedom Isn't Free

A few million alerted Americans have watched this step by step expansion of Communism and have worried about it. A small percentage of them have become actively engaged in some kind of citizenship work to alert and arouse the remainder of our population to the very real danger. But most Americans still know very little about the nature of Communism, its tactics and strategy. It's something unpleasant to think about and they hope and trust it will soon go away. Moreover, they pay scant attention to the source of their freedom. They take freedom for granted, as something that will continue forever without any effort on their part.

Last week a group of 12 people met one evening in the town of Searcy, Arkansas, population 8,000. In the group was a business man, a college professor, a school executive, the vice-president of a corporation, a preacher, the wife of an industrialist, two women office workers, a college student, a housewife. . . . people drawn from various walks of life. They were meeting to plan a month's work on behalf of their nation. They are dedicated to the cause of freedom. They know that freedom isn't free. They are making personal sacrifices in work to pay for freedom — for themselves and for their children.

The John Birch Society

At the meeting a film on Communism was screened. A book review was given. The group's circulating library was discussed. Prospective recruits were listed. Each member of the group reported on his activities for February. Each had written a number of letters — to government leaders in Washington, pointing out, respectfully, things that might be done to strengthen our nation; to government leaders, complimenting an action; to the head of a nationwide organization, supporting a recent statement; to a corporation executive, making a suggestion; and so on. The meeting lasted nearly three hours. No one was in a hurry to get home. The month's work schedule ahead was discussed. A zeal in purpose and accomplishment manifested itself throughout the group.

This was the regular monthly meeting of The John Birch Society in Searcy. Across the nation, hundreds of similar small groups were meeting. The John Birch Society has one simple long-range purpose: to work for less government, more responsibility, and a better world. One of its shortrange objectives is to become a citizen force capable of defeating the aims of Communism. In its first year of existence, without publicity or organized promotion, its growth has been remarkable — and heartening. Any American who loves freedom and is willing to work, work, work to protect it can find intelligent direction and companionship in a John Birch Society group.

It is a unique movement. Its founder is Robert Welch, nationally-known Massachusetts industrialist. Fifteen months ago, having already given up his business responsibilities to devote his full time to the movement, he invited eleven prominent American leaders to a meeting in Indianapolis. For two days he presented the shocking facts-of-life in our world today. Then he outlined the plan for the movement he was founding. His goal, he told them, was a working John Birch group in every American community. Only people, dedicated and working at the task could protect freedom and its blessings. He asked for their moral, financial, and physical support. Whether he got it or not, he told the 11 prominent Americans, he was going forward with his plan. He got their immediate and enthusiastic support. Today The John Birch Society chapters are active in 20 states and are being formed in all 50. The movement may be contacted by writing The John Birch Society, Belmont 78, Massachusetts.

every true American to join and support to the best of one's ability the work of this group."

From Pasadena, California

"Thank you for your tireless and selfless devotion! I pray we will give added support great enough to work a miracle.'"

From Memphis, Tennessee

"The John Birch Society is precisely what I have been looking for. Thanks, Mr. Welch, and your associates."

From Dallas, Texas

"I'm a new member of this society and feel that much good can be accomplished by the united effort of us all."

From Grenada, Mississippi

"I was pleased to hear of Jack Mabley's and the Milwaukee paper's attack on the Society. We know Mabley . . . . . His attack shows that we are making progress -- they only fight back when they are getting hurt."

From Lake Bluff, Illinois

"God Bless you in your magnificent determination to do a job of saving America for Americans."

From Grants Pass, Oregon

"Apparently, you've had some carping -- so may we here do some cheering! Hats off to all of you dedicated patriots and the truly marvelous job you are doing. We're quite proud to be 'John Birchers' -- think we're in mighty good company."

From Bellaire, Texas

"Don't acknowledge this as I have no comments except words of encouragement and one buck. Only hope I can contribute more of both in the future."

From Los Angeles, California

"I have no comments except that it is enlightening to know how fast the society is growing. Slowly here in Lubbock we will grow. It is great to be able to read material that is fact -- such as AMERICAN OPINION and the bulletin, rather than the newspapers."

From Lubbock, Texas

"As a new member, I would like to express my appreciation to you, for what you are doing for our country. I am proud to be a part of the John Birch Society, and will do all in my power to help make our Society a living thing. There isn't a chapter here in our area yet, but hope to have one soon. Have some interested people and have

Patriots May Become 'Conspirators'

"Unless the trend of taking over the government by the International Communist conspiracy can be stopped, the day may not be far off when patriots will be called 'conspirators' against their own government.

"It has happened in every captive nation now in the clutches of Communism, including the Republic of Cuba.

"It can happen even here in the United States."

Such were the frightening prospects that prompted a Massachusetts industrialist to relinquish his business and dedicate himself to doing something about fighting Communism.

Widely known among the higher brackets of the business world, Robert Welch was almost unknown outside these circles less than three years ago.

Today, as editor of the much-quoted magazine, American Opinion, and organizer of the John Birch Society, he is becoming a familiar figure to tens of thousands.

Thumbnail Biography

Well-educated and world-traveled, the 61-year-old Bostonian closely observed the Socialist movement in England and the menacing growth of Communism everywhere.

In January, 1957, Welch gave up most of his business responsibilities and most of his income, to devote practically his entire time and energy to the anti-Communist cause.

The basis of his consuming is the belief that the only thing Communists fear is having the truth about the methods and progress of their international conspiracy made known to the American people, who for the most part appeared to be complacent and indifferent.

Through the printed and spoken word he resolved to proclaim the facts about events, public personalities and issues, fearlessly and without reservation.

The time had come, he thought, to speak out.

Implementation

His objective was not to indoctrinate, but to present facts to interpret them and to demonstrate their significance.

He had confidence in the ability of the American people to draw their own conclusions, once the facts had been made available to them.

First, he developed the outspoken American Opinion, now in its third volume, to publish the findings of his research staff of experts and present the chronology of events as it applied to the Communist conspiracy.

Robert Welch himself, author of three books, contributed his hard-hitting "If You Want It Straight . . ." section, in which he pulled no punches.

These eye-opening revelations caught on fast, but readers were not enough. He wanted them to talk about what they read and to read extensively the right kind of books.

With this thought in mind, he organized the John Birch Society one month before Fidel Castro made his grand entry into Havana and took over the government of Cuba.

Meaning of the Name

Operating largely through local chapters, usually consisting of 10 to 20 members each, the society with headquarters at Belmont 78, Mass., is an association of Americans who have voluntarily joined together to discuss problems of national importance.

John Birch, a Christian missionary in China at the beginning of World War II, organized Gen. Chennault's intelligence service, rose to the rank of Captain in the U. S. Army, served with distinction, and 10 days after V-J day, while in uniform, on a peaceful mission for his government, was brutally murdered by Chinese Communists.

Few people recognized the game, because the Communists had planned it that way. It required five years of persistent effort by his parents, aided by Sen. William F. Knowland and other patriots, to pierce the blanket of obfuscation heavily obscuring the facts thrown over the affair by Red sympathizers in our government.

As the Saturday Evening Post pointed out (in a lengthy editorial), Jan. 22, 1955: "Amazingly, there were in Washington responsible officials who were willing to suppress news of the murder of an American officer, apparently to prevent the American people from rising in their wrath and voiding further appeasement of Communism."

So much for the biography of John Birch.

The objectives of the incorporated society make John Birch an appropriate symbol, the founder contends.

"John Birch was killed by typical Communist tactics, as a part of typical Communist strategy, in a typical Communist style war—a continuous undeclared war in which our enemies observe no rules of international law, of civilization, or of human decency," he explained.

"With his death and in his death the battle lines were drawn. In a struggle from which either Communism or Christian-style civilization must emerge with one completely triumphant and the other completely destroyed."

As presented in the society's Blue Book, the following objectives characterize the organization:

- To outline the nature and the frightening advance of the threats against our nation, our religion, and our civilization.
- To evaluate these dangers, and place them in their proper perspective, against the backdrop of world history and the rise of western civilization.
- To set forth a positive philosophy and program to which men of good will, religious ideals, and humane traditions may rally with confidence and determination.
- To offer leadership which can make the dedication of such men and women more constructive and more fruitful.

Patriots, Not 'Conspirators'

The society's literature points out that merely being patriotic or anti-Communist is not a sufficient qualification for membership. Good will, good conscience and religious ideals are also required.

"The conspiracy which endangers us today is tremendously more extensive and more expertly organized than was the Spartan apparatus which took over the Greek world by treachery and deceit," it states.

"The truly patriotic citizens of this country outnumber all the Communists and their agents and sympathizers and willing dupes in our midst, combined, by at least 10 to one.

"Our problem is organization, direction, dedication."

There it is, pin-pointed. Unless the American patriot is willing to die for his country, he should be willing to work for it now. After all, it is much easier to live for one's country than to die for it.

And, of course, it is far easier to work as a patriot while there is yet time, than later to go underground as a 'conspirator' against a Red regime.—G.N.K.

The Tidings (Los Angeles)
September 30, 1960

by George N. Kramer, Ph.D.

shown the 'Movie' twice. God bless you."

From South San Gabriel, California

"I have only been a member of the Society for a few months, but I feel proud to be associated with such a fine group. . . . . I have a proud feeling in my heart. for everyone who is helping our country to survive, at this crucial time."

From Portsmouth, New Hampshire

"I thank you for the John Birch Society and would like to commend you on every firm stand taken."

From Tacoma, Washington

"We both appreciate very much the John Birch Society and all you are doing for the good of our wonderful country. We are thankful for this Society as we feel that we are really doing something worthwhile when we carry out your instructions. We wish to commend you for the fine publication American Opinion. We always read it from cover to cover and glean information that we find no other place."

Also From Tacoma, Washington

"This is the first time I have participated in the John Birch Society as an active member. It has given me a great deal of satisfaction to be able to do something. I have done a good deal of reading and exchanging views, attending meetings, etc., but never felt I was accomplishing anything. Even when I wrote my congressmen I didn't know if it would do any good. I had a forlorn feeling. Now I realize that many people concentrating on a given subject can do wonders. This is exactly as it should be. If at any time, however, I feel I can't go along with your views and thinking I reserve the right to refrain from writing or acting but will give you notice of my disagreement. Thank you for giving me a goal for which to work."

From Stevensville, Montana

"No improvement in the John Birch Society is needed at the top unless it were that its founder doesn't knock himself out. The enthusiasm at the lowest level is the fire under the effort."

From Pasadena, California

"Little did I know years ago when I heard John Birch preach that I would some day be a member of a patriotic organization named for him. I am so happy to be a new John Birch member."

From Fort Worth, Texas

"Every time I hear Mr. Welch speak, I appreciate even more the values of Qualified Leadership, and I realize that it is the lack of such leadership that has stopped other anti-communist groups from becoming effective."

From Milwaukee, Wisconsin

W. D. Workman

The John Birch Society

Communism has few admitted friends in America. But none of its enemies are more dogged, determined, or downright hostile than are the members of the John Birch Society.

That band of dedicated anti-Communists still is relatively small in numbers, but it makes up in intensity for what it lacks in size. And its size is growing steadily, as more and more Americans become aware of its existence and its purpose.

Back of the John Birch Society is an uncompromising businessman named Robert Welch, who seems to live on equal parts of nervous energy, hatred of Communism, and distrust both of the United Nations and of almost every agency of the United States government. It was he who founded the Society, who named it, and who gives it the chief impetus and character.

In this day of organizations gone to seed, the John Birch Society stands apart in bold relief. It is authoritarian, and insists upon a disciplined following. It brooks no wrangling or haggling over Society policies or procedures. And it is as quick to invite members out of the organization as in, if it appears that its cause might suffer by their presence.

The cause is everything, and it is a cause of both breadth and depth. The primary objective is to halt the spread of Communism in this country. For Robert Welch contends with fervor that "incredible" inroads already have been made into the nation's legislative halls, governmental agencies, labor unions, schools, churches, and society in general. Beyond that is the goal of strengthening the hands of anti-Communists abroad, so that the Communist conspiracy may be halted everywhere.

Along with these well-defined goals is the more intangible objective of combating collectivism in the interests of achieving "less government, more responsibility, and a better world."

In its steadfast drive toward these related goals, the John Birch Society demands of its members both sacrifice and dedication. Welch puts it in these words:

"We need disciplined pullers at the oars; not passengers in the boat . . . . We do not ask that you give the John Birch Society the whole of your lives, for you might as well be taken over by Communism if that be the case . . . . but we do expect more work and sacrifice in this society than will be asked of you in any other organization."

Welch makes his personal bid for support in a gruelling, two-day talkathon, in which he paints a grim picture of Communist successes throughout the world, and holds out the John Birch Society as "the last best hope of saving our civilization." He and the handful of "coordinators" who help him spread the message tell their carefully selected prospects:

"It is the only alternative. Either you come into the John Birch Society and give it your best, or else you will be devoting all of your time to serving a Communist slave state."

Those who do join the society are called upon to keep abreast of both Communist and anti-Communist developments here and abroad, to spread knowledge of such developments among their neighbors, to support and sustain anti-Communists who are fighting actively in governmental and other circles, and in general to "start shocking the American people into a realization of how far Communism has crept into this country."

Welch and his associates admittedly are bearers of ill tidings, but they make no effort to conceal their concern and their distress over the apathy of Americans generally. Their optimism, when it does show through, is couched in statements such as this:

"We do not have to lose this fight at all. There is enough strength in America to stop Communism if we can stir it to action. Our danger is immense and imminent, but all it takes to win is to build understanding."

That effort to make Americans comprehend is centered in Belmont, Mass., where the North Carolina-born Welch maintains headquarters for the John Birch Society. The Society's name stems from a young Christian missionary, a native of Georgia, who joined the United States forces in China at the outbreak of World War II. Welch tells of Birch's life and death in a little book, saying that his brutal murder in cold blood by Chinese Communists made him "probably the first American casualty" in a third World War between the Communists and the "ever-shrinking free world."

This clipping is from the Stamford Advocate, of Stamford, Connecticut. The same article appeared on November 28, 1960 in the many papers throughout the country carrying the syndicated column of W. D. Workman. Mr. Workman, who lives in Columbia, S. C., is author of the excellent book, The Case For The South, published by Devin-Adair.

"As a new member I believe this to be an excellent program. It places both criticism and praise where needed."

From Port Salerno, Florida

"Sir, I'm most delighted and excited to be a new member of such a great crusade. Although I don't believe I'll agree with you on all issues, we both hold our goals the same and look to the future for better government --

"I'm with you all the way."

From Dickinson, Texas

"Your writings and your wonderful example should be an inspiration to all decent Americans. They have shaken me from my lethargy and made me try to do my part."

From Alexandria, Virginia

"Your Blue Book sold me on your wonderful society. It's the greatest book I've ever read. I only wish every American could read it."

From Peoria, Illinois

"Never knew letter writing could be so much fun. It really helps to have facts and figures to go on. You certainly are doing a grand job."

From Shelby, North Carolina

"I am very proud to be associated with you. In this perilous time every American should do all in his power to live up to our Constitution . . . . . Being a member has most certainly enlightened me to many things -- things that I was unaware of before."

From Milwaukee, Wisconsin

"Thanks so much for showing us a way in which we may do our best to help. The enclosed five dollars isn't much but I will try to help when I can. Six children require a lot of food and clothes. We are trying to cut expenses every way possible."

From Beaumont, Texas

"I have not the slightest doubt that the total war against the communist conspiracy cannot be won without total understanding of the problems involved, nor without discipline and direction. All these qualities have been lacking so far.

"The John Birch Society under your leadership is the only movement that can give form and direction to the efforts of the many thousands who are already aware of the danger we are facing."

From Beaufort, South Carolina

AMARILLO SUNDAY NEWS-GLOBE

Page 26 Amarillo, Texas, Sunday Morning, August 7, 1960

A Most Amazing Organization Leaves Members Latitude Of Individuality

John Birch is named by many as the first American casualty of the Cold War between Communists and the ever-shrinking "Free World."

Birch was a Christian missionary, born on a farm near Macon, Georgia, who was in China when the United States entered World War II. On July 4, 1942, he officially joined General Chennault's intelligence service, rose to rank of Captain in the U. S. Army, and served with bravery and brilliance throughout the war.

Ten days after V-J Day, while in uniform on a special peaceful and official mission for the U. S. government, John Birch was brutally murdered in cold blood by so-called U. S. "allies," the Chinese Communists.

As one of the members of the John Birch Society says, "You probably never heard of John Birch. This is simply because the Communists in Washington planned it that way. It took five years of determined effort... to pierce the blanket of oblivion which had been so brazenly thrown over his life, and death by Communist sympathizers in our government. As THE SATURDAY EVENING POST pointed out in an editorial on January 22, 1955, 'Amazingly, there were in Washington responsible officials who were willing to suppress news of the murder of an American officer, apparently to prevent the American people from rising in their wrath and vetoing further appeasement of communism.'

In 1958, the John Birch Society was formed of Americans who as *individuals*, not representatives of organizations, want to fight in hometown councils to "wake up the American people to the serious cancer of the pro-Communist activities of Communist sympathizers."

That many of those individuals are men who are nationally known — T. Coleman Andrews, former Commissional of Internal Revenue; Tom Anderson, editor of FARM AND RANCH; Spruille Braden, former U.S. ambassador to several countries; Adolphe Menjou, screen actor who has been in the forefront of patriotic movements in recent years; Dean Clarence Manion, former dean of Notre Dame Law School—does not eliminate the individual character of the Council membership.

It is this note that makes one of the recent bulletins of the John Birch Society fascinating — since it underlines that which keeps so many organizations from attracting widespread membership. We commend the reading of the following paragraphs to any person who is seeking, as the Society does, "less government, more responsibility, and a better world."

"So we welcome into the Society A who disagrees with B's ideas of how to fight the Communists, and B who dislikes A, and C, who looks scornfully at them both; and D who is too rabid, and E who is too restrained, and F who can stand nobody except those who land on what he considers middle ground; and G who wants to get his gun and come out shooting (if we would only say the word), and H who wants to win the whole struggle solely by educational means, and J who thinks that militant animosity and slow educational procedures must both be subordinated to practical political action; and K, who thinks that L is too uncouth, and L who thinks that K is a stuffed shirt, and M who can't tell the difference between them; and N who thinks that every third member of the Society is a Communist infiltrator, and O who thinks any expectation of Communist infiltration is exaggerated and ridiculous, and P who thinks it doesn't matter; and Q who thinks that R is a hound for personal publicity, and R who thinks that Q is a nonentity, and S who is sure that neither is a credit to the Society; and T who thinks that V is too bossy and V who thinks that T is too mousy, and parliamentary W who thinks that even lunch should be eaten according to Roberts' Rules of Order; and X who thinks that Y is too much of a sinner, and Y who thinks that X is too much of a saint, and Z who wants to spend too much of his time worrying about somebody else's religion instead of his own.

"You will note, gentle reader, that U and I were left out of the above list. That is because U, of course, are guilty of none of these distracting or disturbing attitudes; and because I, with so much of the responsibility for the ultimate effectiveness of The John Birch Society, must—within the limits of honor and of safety—be tolerant of them all.

"We do not even want to discourage complaints, for out of a bushel of overdrawn fears and prejudices and accusations we are bound to find now and then the grains of truthful warning which we need. We may be slower to move than is liked by some who make charges or air their suspicions. While we are sure that other members will consider us too drastic in the use of our rights of expulsion, if and when we do become convinced that charges are justified. But we shall do our utmost to get members of The John Birch Society, from A to Z, to work together for the purposes of the Society, regardless of how, on the outside, they may feel about each other.

"We shall insist on loyalty to the Society while any person is a member, without concerning ourselves as to what that person says about the Society, or about your Founder, after he or she resigns from membership. We have and want, absolutely no control over or responsibility for the actions of anybody, except as a member of The John Birch Society, and then only with the frequently confirmed understanding that the same anybody is free to resign from the Society at any time."

From The May 17, 1960 Issue Of
CHRISTIAN ECONOMICS

John Birch was a Baptist missionary to China and later became a U. S. Army intelligence officer in the war against Japan. As a Christian and one ardently devoted to freedom and the principles of self-government he was feared by the Communists and finally brutally murdered.

In his memory, Robert Welch, a nationally-known Massachusetts industrialist, organized The John Birch Society for the purpose of furthering the concepts of John Birch, defeating the aims of communism, promoting the principles of constitutional government and advancing the cause of freedom.

Many chapters of the Society have been organized throughout the country, and those desiring more information about this movement should write to The John Birch Society, Belmont 78, Massachusetts.

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Page 6 Friday, December 16, 1960

Where The Spirit Of The Lord Is, There Is Liberty
II Corinthians 3: 17

Published Every Morning by
PHOENIX NEWSPAPERS, INC.
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EUGENE C. PULLIAM, Publisher

Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty.—Job 5:17.

Freedom's Missionaries

In the past, communism has had few effective, dedicated opponents. Thankfully, that deficiency is now being remedied by an anti-Communist movement—comprised of thousands of dedicated Americans from every walk of life—springing up all across the United States. The movement is known as the John Birch Society, and its sole purpose is to turn back the Communist tidal wave threatening to engulf the world.

What distinguishes The John Birch Society from anti-Communist groups of the past is that this organization knows exactly what it wants to accomplish, and it is determined to let nothing stand in its way of accomplishing it. It is not beset by petty internal squabbling over methods and procedures, but, rather, possesses boundless energy, unusual dedication and skillful leadership.

The founder of The John Birch Society is Robert Welch, a dynamic intellectual who rose from humble beginnings on a North Carolina farm to become one of the nation's outstanding business men and one of its most serious scholars. In 1958 he abandoned his business career completely, determined to devote his life to fighting the Red threat. With little money and with only a handful of supporters initially, Robert Welch has since fashioned The John Birch Society—named for a Baptist missionary who was brutally murdered by the Chinese Communists, 10 days after the end of World War II—into a vibrant, effective organization which is growing by leaps and bounds, despite a systematic, concerted smear campaign by leftists and fellow travelers.

The two principal characteristics of the society are the dedication of its members (both Democrats and Republicans, representing all religious denominations), who are made to study communism, and the caliber of its leadership, which includes high school and college instructors, top ranking military officers, and important business executives. Believing, as did Jefferson, that resistance to tyranny is obedience to God, each member has dedicated himself to the important task of awakening an apathetic public which has been lulled to sleep by the soporifics of the left.

The reason for The John Birch Society is epitomized in the words of Chesterton:

"Yea, for one great hour's triumph, not in me
Nor any hope of mine did I rejoice,
But in a meadow game of girls and boys
Some sunset in the centuries to be."

Nowhere, in any nation where the Communists have come to power, are their meadow games of girls and boys. Instead, the serenity of childhood has been replaced with forced labor camps, political indoctrination schools, and the systematic destruction of family life. By opposing communism, the society hopes to prevent the same from occurring in America.

The uninformed will doubtless scoff at the purposes of The John Birch Society, just as the uninformed always scoff at whatever they are ignorant of. But neither their calumnies, nor the deliberate slanders of influential fellow travelers, should deter this movement from its noble goal. We wish it every success in its mission.

WILLIAM C. MULLENDORE
EDISON BUILDING
LOS ANGELES

January 31, 1961

Mr. Robert Welch
The John Birch Society, Inc.
Belmont 78, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Welch:

I would like to add my own to the many expressions of appreciation which you are receiving for your fine leadership in the fight against the communist conspiracy. The John Birch Society is deserving of the encouragement and support of all who are concerned about the great inroads which communism is making in our country and throughout the world.

In some instances you have had to say some harsh things about some policies and acts of friends of mine which went farther than I would be willing to go. I feel sure, for example, that Chris Herter is a patriotic and able man and that reflections upon his honor, integrity and patriotism are not justified. Yet I agree with you that some of his statements and policies as Secretary of State did not do justice to his good intentions.

You have my moral support, admiration and best wishes.

Sincerely,

W C Mullendore

WCM:md

T. COLEMAN ANDREWS
6 IRIS LANE
RICHMOND 26, VIRGINIA

April 20, 1960

Mr. C. M. Crawford, Leader
Wilshire Chapter #89
The John Birch Society
3434 West 6th Street
Los Angeles 5, California

Dear Mr. Crawford:

I am happy to have an opportunity to tell you something about Bob Welch. Bob is, as you know, the editor and publisher of AMERICAN OPINION, which enjoys the reputation of being one of the country's leading publications dedicated to the cause of conservatism.

Bob is without doubt one of the most patriotic men I have ever known, and one of the hardest working for the cause to which he has now come to devote all of his time, to the complete exclusion of his private interests. He is convinced that a Communist conspiracy to impose socialist dictatorship upon the world has been in existence for years and is increasing in intensity and tempo, and in his voluminous writing and speaking has adduced enough evidence in support of his conviction to convince anyone who is willing to take the time to read or listen.

The John Birch Society is one of Bob's brain children and its symbol is the life story of John Birch, a God-fearing patriot who, after a long period of behind-the-lines operations in China, was brutally and cold-bloodedly murdered by the Chinese Communists, who were supposed to be our friends, while on a peaceful mission ten days after the war with Japan ended.

I think that the measure of Bob Welch can be best seen by a scanning of the list of outstanding Americans -- from which I exclude myself, of course -- who Bob has assembled around him as The Council of The John Birch Society.

The Communists have gone far toward taking us without firing a shot, and I have heard several of the country's outstanding men say very frankly that The John Birch Society appears to be the only hope of stemming the tide of infiltration from the East.

Sincerely,

T.C.A.

T. Coleman Andrews

SPRUILLE BRADEN
320 EAST 72ND STREET
NEW YORK 21, NEW YORK
REGENT 7-9058

April 19, 1960

Dear Mr. Crawford:

In reply to your April 13 letter, I have known Mr. Robert Welch for a number of years, first in the National Association of Manufacturers Foreign Relations Committee, and at meetings of that organization. Subsequently, I came to admire the splendid and patriotic job he was doing in the publication of AMERICAN OPINION. Without ever making any inquiry as to his antecedents, I came to know more or less automatically that he was a highly regarded and successful manufacturer. I have a natural fellow feeling for him because of his alarm as to the state of our nation and the courage which he demonstrated through AMERICAN OPINION and otherwise in fighting the malignant influences of collectivism and communism.

Shortly after he formed the John Birch Society and I spent an entire day listening to him, I decided that at long last here was the one organization which could make the fight effectively against these disrupting influences in our country. I had for long felt that while many different patriotic organizations attacking these problems from various angles were to the good, that to become really effective, there must be one central properly organized group, with competent leadership. In the John Birch Society I found the organization, and in Bob Welch the leadership.

I trust that the foregoing covers the questions you had in mind.

With all best wishes,

Faithfully and cordially yours,

Spruille Braden

Mr. C. M. Crawford
Dominguez Estate Company
3434 W. 6th St.
Los Angeles 5, California

CARDINAL'S RESIDENCE
2101 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
BRIGHTON 35, MASSACHUSETTS

April 28, 1960

Dear Mr. Crawford:

Replying to your recent letter, I beg to advise you that I do not know of any more dedicated anti-communist in the country than Robert Welch.

I unhesitatingly recommend him to you and endorse his John Birch Society.

Under separate cover I am sending you some literature that may be of interest to you.

With all good wishes, I am

Yours most cordially,

Archbishop of Boston

Mr. C. M. Crawford
Dominguez Estate Co.
3434 West Sixth Street
Los Angeles 5, California

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY was founded, in Indianapolis, on December 9, 1958.

Its founder and present head is Robert Welch, of whom biographical notes are given at Page 28 of this brochure.

Its top governing body, under the Founder, is the COUNCIL, which was formed in December, 1959 and held its first meeting in Chicago, on January 9, 1960. The men constituting the COUNCIL are listed and identified on Pages 29 and 30.

The Society operates largely through local chapters, usually of between ten and twenty members each. Merely being patriotic or anti-Communist is not a sufficient qualification for membership. Because of our basic objectives (which will be more fully explained further along), we must have associated with us, now and in the future, only men and women of good will, good conscience, and religious ideals. For we shall strive to set an example, by dedication, integrity, and purpose -- in word and deed -- which our children's children may follow without hesitation.

As of the day this is written (January 31, 1961), we still have not begun any organizing effort in the following states: Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, and Vermont. But we already have from one chapter to more than a hundred chapters in each of the other thirty-four states, and in the District of Columbia.

We also have a Home Chapter, which maintains contact with its members only by mail. There are now

members of this Home Chapter in every state, and the roll includes several hundred of the most influential men and women in our country. Also, many of our new members first come into the Society as members of the Home Chapter, and are then transferred into local chapters which they themselves help to form, or which are formed by others in their community.

For taking the lead in establishing chapters, and for the supervision and guidance needed to keep them functioning most effectively, we have salaried staff men, called Coordinators. We also have, in many areas, men and women with other jobs who devote large parts of their time and energy to serving The John Birch Society as Volunteer Coordinators. The Society is now represented by such Coordinators and Volunteer Coordinators in about thirty states. We shall appoint Coordinators in the other states, and increase their number in the areas which are at present too thinly covered, as fast as our growth and resources will permit.

We now have several Major Coordinators, supervising the activities of Coordinators and Volunteer Coordinators. We shall add further Major Coordinators, and otherwise increase our organizational strength, from the bottom up, as rapidly as we can afford it and to whatever extent it seems wise to do so. Neither the list of our members, of either local chapters or the Home Chapter, nor their number, is ever given out to anybody. But during the twenty-six months since The John Birch Society was founded its growth has been sure and solid. We expect that growth to continue, with increasing speed and momentum, until we have the million members -- of fervent patriotism and unassailable character -- which is our goal.

* * *

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY is named in honor of one of the greatest young men that America has produced.

John Birch was a Christian missionary, from a farm near Macon, Georgia, who was in China when we entered World War II. His heroism, accomplishments, and nobility of character were to make of him a legend which the Communists could not allow to live.

On July 4, 1942, John Birch officially joined General Chennault's forces in Chungking as a volunteer. He organized Chennault's intelligence service, rose to the rank of Captain in the United States Army, and served with unsurpassable bravery and brilliance throughout the war. He was frequently referred to, by both his associates and superiors, as the most important man in our forces struggling against the Japanese in China.

Ten days after V - J day, while in uniform, on a peaceful and official mission for our government, John Birch was brutally murdered in cold blood by our "allies," the Chinese Communists. This was on August 25, 1945. He thus became probably the first American casualty in that third World War, between the Communists and the ever-shrinking "free world," which is still being waged against us fifteen years later; a relentless war of which there is no end in sight.

You have probably never heard of John Birch. This is simply because the Communists in Washington planned it that way. It took five years of persistent and determined effort on the part of his parents, aided by Senator Knowland and many other good patriots, to pierce the blanket of oblivion which had been so brazenly thrown over his life and death by Communist sympathizers in our government. As the Saturday Evening Post pointed out, in a long edi-

torial on January 22, 1955, based on The Life Of John Birch by this writer: "Amazingly, there were in Washington responsible officials who were willing to suppress news of the murder of an American officer, apparently to prevent the American people from rising in their wrath and vetoing further appeasement of communism."

John Birch was killed by typical Communist tactics, as a part of typical Communist strategy, in a typical Communist-style war -- a continuous undeclared war in which our enemies observe no rules of international law, of civilization, or of human decency. He commanded no armies, headed no government, converted no nations to his creed. His impact would have been of transient memory and comparatively small importance, had not that impact occurred at a time and in a way to supply particulars from which momentous generalizations can properly be projected. With his death and in his death the battle lines were drawn, in a struggle from which either Communism or Christian-style civilization must emerge with one completely triumphant and the other completely destroyed.

Partly for these reasons, but even more because John Birch -- in all of his short but outstanding career -- so typified the best of America, we have named our organization in his memory. If we rediscover some of our sounder spiritual values in the example of his life, recharge our determination from the spark of his courage, and learn essential truths about our enemy from the lesson of his murder, then his death at twenty-six ceases to be a tragedy. For in a full lifetime he could not have accomplished more.

* * *

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY is a group of Americans who have voluntarily joined together:

(1) To combat more effectively the evil forces which now threaten our country, our lives, and our civilization.

(2) To prevail upon our fellow citizens to start pulling out of the deepening morass of collectivism, and then climb up the mountain to higher levels of individual freedom and responsibility than man has ever achieved before.

(3) To restore, with brighter lustre and deeper conviction, the faith-inspired morality, the spiritual sense of values, and the ennobling aspirations, on which our western civilization has been built. The long-range objective of the Society has been summarized as less government, more responsibility, and a better world.

We are digging far more deeply into the problems we face, however, and building far more solidly in our coordinated effort to overcome the destructive forces around us, than can be indicated by the brief outline of our purposes given above. A more complete presentation of the background, methods, and purposes of The John Birch Society has now been given to selected small groups of leaders in different parts of the country, in full two-day meetings, more than twenty times since the Society was founded.

This presentation is available in tape form, wherever we have Coordinators to play back the tape recordings. There are now films available, of a part of the presentation, in some areas. But the most readily accessible form of the full presentation is in the Blue

Book of The John Birch Society, which we brought out quietly by ourselves a few months ago because we have not wanted the publicity of commercial publication.

In this presentation we have attempted: (1) To outline the nature and the frightening advance of the threats against our nation, our religion, and our civilization; (2) to evaluate these dangers, and place them in their proper perspective, against the backdrop of world history and the rise of western civilization; (3) to set forth a positive philosophy and program to which men of good will, religious ideals, and humane traditions may rally with confidence and determination; (4) to offer leadership which can make the dedication of such men and women more constructive and more fruitful; and (5) to describe in detail the organization, function, and procedures of The John Birch Society.

Since defeat of the Communist conspiracy overshadows all other objectives at the present time, our action program for the near future breaks down into ten categories: (1) Dissemination of Americanist books and pamphlets as widely as possible; (2) increasing the circulation and readership of the best Americanist periodicals; (3) enlarging the audiences of Americanist commentators and newscasters on radio and television; (4) making more effective use -- through better planning, direction, and coordination -- of the weapon of letter writing; and (5) organizing Americanist fronts for many different purposes, including the widespread use of petitions in some instances; (6) waking up the American people to the seriousness of our danger by exposing, wherever possible, the pro-Communist activities of Communist sympathizers; (7) making it more difficult for hundreds of pro-Communist speakers to appear before thousands of unsuspecting audiences; (8) making Americanist speakers available for audiences which are

now, simply by default, at the mercy of pro-Communist lecturers; (9) supplying encouragement and renewed hope and determination to anti-Communist refugee groups throughout our country; and (10) carrying on an educational campaign on the political front, so that our members will understand better - and can help their fellow citizens to understand better -- the issues and candidates offered to them by both political parties.

We are already seriously engaged in about half of these areas of activity. And we shall expand our efforts into every one of the ten fields just as rapidly as we can.

* * *

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY invites you:

(1) To buy The Life Of John Birch, referred to on Page 10, if you would like to know more about this heroic young American. Paperbound edition, 88 pages, $1.00, postage paid.

(2) To buy the Blue Book of The John Birch Society, if you want to know more about what we are trying to do, and how, and why. Plain cardboard cover, plastic link binding, 186 pages, $2.00, postage paid.

(3) To submit an application for membership in either the Home Chapter or a local chapter of The John Birch Society, whenever you are convinced of the sincerity of our purpose, the value of our program, and the integrity of our leadership. A blank for that purpose, with the dues schedule printed on it, is enclosed. If accepted, you will become one of a growing legion of truly dedicated men and women who are determined to save for our children and their children some semblance of the glorious country and humane civilization which we ourselves inherited.

ROBERT WELCH

Born December 1, 1899, on a farm in Chowan County, North Carolina. Ancestry, full of farmers and Baptist preachers, traceable to one Miles Welch who came to this country from Wales in 1720. Educated at University of North Carolina (four years), United States Naval Academy (two years), Harvard Law School (two years), and school of hard knocks (about forty years). Came to Boston from North Carolina in 1919. Has lived in Belmont for the past twenty years. Has one wife, two sons, a Golden Retriever dog, and fourteen golf clubs—none of which he understands, but all of which he loves.

Has spent a great part of his life getting from where he was to where he wasn't, for reasons which seemed worthwhile at the time. This includes two trips to England specifically to study the effects of the Socialist government; one trip around the world; and fairly extensive additional traveling in North America, South America, Europe, and Asia.

Author of THE ROAD TO SALESMANSHIP, published in 1941 by the Ronald Press Company; of MAY GOD FORGIVE US, published in 1952 by Henry Regnery Company; and of THE LIFE OF JOHN BIRCH, published in 1954 by Henry Regnery Company. Is editor and publisher of AMERICAN OPINION, a monthly magazine which reviews current events and appraises contemporary leaders on the world-wide stage. Has done much public speaking, and will climb on a soapbox to argue against the evils of socialism whenever anybody will listen.

Has been in the candy manufacturing business all of his adult life. Was for many years Vice President, in charge of sales and advertising, of one of the larger candy manufacturing companies, with factories on both coasts, and of its subsidiary sales corporations in various cities throughout the country. Is a director of one bank, and has served as a director of several other business corporations.

Was a member of the board of directors of the National Association of Manufacturers for seven years. Also served three years as a Regional Vice President of NAM, and two years as chairman of its Educational Advisory Committee. Has been active in many other business associations and committees, and in many community and educational activities — including service on the Belmont School Committee.

As of January 1, 1957, Mr. Welch gave up most of his business responsibilities — and most of his income — in order to devote practically all of his time and energy to the anti-Communist cause. Believes that the only thing the Communists now fear is having the truth become widely known, to the American people, about the methods and the progress of the whole international Communist conspiracy. For his readers or his listeners, Mr. Welch simply puts together clear but separate facts about the Communist advance, so that their significance becomes more apparent. Through this method he is trying to wake up as many of his fellow citizens as he can, to the horror and the imminence of the dangers which they face.

THE COUNCIL

of

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

Each of the men listed below, who make up our COUNCIL, came into the Society solely as an individual, representing in no way any other group or organization. But simply for identification, we have given against each name the briefest line or two concerning other connections, or past accomplishments.

Dr. N. E. Adamson, Jr. A Boston surgeon. Assistant Medical Director of New England Mutual Life Insurance Company. Youngest member of the COUNCIL.

Mr. Thomas J. Anderson, Editor and Publisher of FARM AND RANCH, farm paper with 1,300,000 circulation.

Hon. T. Coleman Andrews. Former Commissioner of Internal Revenue of the United States. Now Chairman of the Board of two large (and affiliated) insurance companies.

Hon. Spruille Braden. Former Ambassador to several countries, former Assistant Secretary of State. A top authority on Latin American affairs.

Col. Laurence E. Bunker. Former Personal Aide to General Douglas MacArthur for 6½ years — during the Japanese occupation, the Korean War, and MacArthur's early months in this country after his return.

Mr. F. Gano Chance. President, A. B. Chance Company, Centralia, Missouri. Former President of Missouri Chamber Of Commerce and of Associated Industries of Missouri.

Mr. S. J. Conner. President of the Conroth Company, Chicago, and with many other business interests.

Mr. Ralph E. Davis. President of General Plant Protection Corporation and affiliated companies, Los Angeles.

Dr. S. M. Draskovich. Author of *Tito, Moscow's Trojan Horse*. Editor-in-chief of SRPSKA BORBA *(The Serbian Struggle)*, a weekly newspaper, published in Chicago, with sizable circulation in thirty-six countries.

Mr. Wm. J. Grede, President of Grede Foundries, Inc., Milwaukee. Former President of the National Association of Manufacturers and former head of the International YMCA.

Mr. A. G. Heinsohn, Jr. President, Cherokee Mills, Sevierville, Tennessee. Author of *One Man's Fight For Freedom*. A very successful manufacturer and a very dedicated patriot.

Dr. Granville F. Knight. An outstanding physician and public-spirited citizen of Santa Barbara, California. Author of many scientific papers, especially on the misuse of chemicals and adulterants in foods.

Mr. Fred C. Koch. President, Rock Island Oil and Refining Company, Wichita, Kansas. Strong supporter of many patriotic movements, and especially of right-to-work legislation.

Mr. Alfred Kohlberg. Was a charter member of our COUNCIL. Now deceased.

Dean Clarence Manion. Former Dean of Notre Dame Law School. In 1953 was appointed, by President Eisenhower, chairman of a Special Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. He later resigned rather than stop crusading for the Bricker Amendment. Founded the Manion Forum, which now reaches a radio audience of many millions every week.

Mr. Frank E. Masland, Jr. President of C. H. Masland & Sons (carpet manufacturers), Carlisle, Pennsylvania. A leader in his community and state, who serves as chairman, vice-chairman, or active member of the boards of a great many educational, philanthropic, and industrial organizations. Also famous as an explorer of out-of-the-way places in the world.

Mr. N. Floyd McGowin. President, W. T. Smith Lumber Company, Chapman, Alabama. Active on many important boards of national organizations and enterprises.

Mr. W. B. McMillan. President of the Hussmann Refrigerator Company, St. Louis, Missouri. An outstanding business leader. Was, next to your Founder, the first member of The John Birch Society.

Dr. Revilo P. Oliver. Professor of Classical Languages and Literatures at the University of Illinois. Recognized as one of the very top scholars in America in his field. Now becoming rapidly recognized, also, as one of the ablest speakers on the Americanist side.

Mr. Cola G. Parker. Former President of the Kimberly-Clark Company. Former President of the National Association of Manufacturers. More recently, United States Employer Delegate—a stoutly patriotic and embattled delegate—to the International Labor Organization.

Hon. M. T. Phelps. Former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Arizona.

Mr. Louis Ruthenburg. Formerly President, then Chairman of the Board, of Servel, Inc., Evansville, Indiana. Former President, Indiana State Chamber of Commerce. Now retired except as an industrial consultant. Has received several honorary degrees and three Freedom Foundation awards.

Mr. J. Nelson Shepherd. President, Midwest-Beach Co., Sioux Falls, South Dakota. An outstanding citizen and strong supporter of many patriotic causes.

Mr. James Simpson, Jr. Was a charter member of our COUNCIL. Now deceased.

Mr. Robert W. Stoddard. President of Wyman-Gordon Company, Worcester, Massachusetts. On board of directors of several of New England's largest businesses, including First National Bank of Boston. Has just served two terms as President of Associated Industries of Massachusetts. Active on the boards of many educational and philanthropic institutions.

Lt. General Charles B. Stone, III, U.S.A.F. (Retired). Succeeded General Claire Chennault as Commander of our 14th Airforce, in China, near end of World War II, and is lifetime Honorary Chairman of the 14th Airforce Association.

Mr. Paul H. Talbert. President, Paul H. Talbert Company, Beverly Hills, California. One of the most successful insurance executives in the United States. Also one of the most public spirited and influential citizens of his state of California.

The basic function of the COUNCIL is threefold: (1) To show the stature and standing of the leadership of the Society; (2) to give your Founder the benefit of the COUNCIL's advice and guidance, both in procedural or organizational matters, and in substantive matters of policy; and (3) to select, with absolute and final authority, a Successor to myself as head of The John Birch Society, if and when an accident, "suicide," or anything sufficiently fatal is arranged for me by the Communists — or I simply die in bed of old age and a cantankerous disposition. And we believe that both the growth and the effectiveness of the Society will be greatly helped by the experience, ability, and resolute purpose of so strong a governing body. RW

COMMITTEE OF ENDORSERS

Now in process of formation. For some states no letters of invitation have yet gone out, and for others -- Texas and Wisconsin, for instance -- they have just started. But acceptances have been running about four to one against regrets, and we are already very proud of the membership of this committee.

Alabama
- Lt. Gen. Edward M. Almond

Arizona
- Frank Cullen Brophy
- Clarence J. Duncan
- Mrs. V. M. Haldiman
- Edwin McDowell

California
- Frank P. Adams
- Mrs. Gertrude Derby Bale
- Andrew Brown
- Hon. Kit Clardy
- William B. Coberly, Jr.
- William W. Cone
- C. M. Crawford
- Richard H. Creel, M.D.
- Mrs. Helen H. Garretson
- Francis P. Graves
- D. Hanson Grubb
- J. H. Harris
- Rev. Francis Keane
- Max A. Koffman
- D. B. Lewis
- Doane M. Lowery
- Mrs. Doris A. Parks
- Sister M. Margaret Patricia, Ph. D.
- Ray M. Spalding

Connecticut
- Philip N. Dumbrille
- Franklin Farrel, Jr.
- Rev. Francis E. Fenton
- A. Brooks Harlow
- E. Merrill Root
- E. L. Wiegand

District of Columbia
- Brig. Gen. Bonner Fellers
- Mrs. John F. Gibson, Jr.
- Rear Adm. Paulus P. Powell
- Melchior F. R. Savarese, M.D.
- Vice Adm. T. G. W. Settle

Florida
- Mr. and Mrs. Frederick S. Ballweg
- Mrs. A. Gray Boylston
- Thomas Gaskins
- Sydney Houston
- Lt. Gen. Sumter L. Lowry
- Mrs. Florence Post

Georgia
- Hugh H. Armstrong
- Paul K. McKenney, Jr.
- R. Carter Pittman

Hawaii
- Mrs. George P. Cooke

Idaho
- J. H. Gipson, Sr.

Illinois
- George J. Hess, M.D.
- W. A. Kates
- Theodore W. Miller
- Max Pray
- W. B. Taylor, Jr.
- George H. Williamson

Indiana
- James L. Doenges, M.D.
- Hugh S. Ramsey, M.D.

Iowa
- J. S. Kimmel, Sr.

Kansas
- Robert D. Love
- Hon. Wint Smith

Kentucky
- R. S. Logan

Louisiana
- John U. Barr
- Dr. Medford Evans

Maryland
- George O. Blome

Massachusetts
- Eugene H. Clapp
- Miss Hope Gray
- Hubert W. Kregeloh
- Charles J. Lewin
- Robert H. Montgomery
- Col. W. Bruce Pirnie
- Burton A. Prince
- Miss Olive Simes
- Rodney Washburn

Michigan
Mrs. Harmon L. Brown
Richard Durant
Irving E. Ingraham
Vernon P. Johnson, M. D.

Mississippi
Tullins Brady

New Jersey
Mrs. Frederick Griswold, Jr.
Mark M. Jones
Ross Nichols
Louis S. Wegryn, M. D.

New Mexico
George S. Richardson, M. D.

New York
Mrs. Kenneth C. Crain
Frank de Ganahl
E. Ainsworth Eyre
Norman J. Gould
Merwin K. Hart
Mrs. Seth Milliken
T. I. Parkinson, Jr.
Commodore Frederick G. Reinicke
Archibald B. Roosevelt
George M. Tisdale

Ohio
Charles W. Pavey, M. D.
Hon. Gordon H. Scherer

Oklahoma
Glenn O. Young

Pennsylvania
Frank W. Gaydosh
Rev. Richard Ginder

Rhode Island
Robert B. Dresser
Norman D. MacLeod

South Carolina
James L. Coker
Roger Milliken
Thomas Parker, M. D.

Tennessee
J. P. McCallie

Texas
John R. Anderson
Mrs. W. L. Goldston
W. H. Kellogg
Brig. Gen. W. L. Lee
Edward D. McKay, M. D.
Maj. Gen. W. G. Weaver
Brig. Gen. T. F. Wessels

Utah
Capt. and Mrs. Stephen Abbot
Hon. J. Bracken Lee

Vermont
William S. Schlamm

Virginia
E. S. Dillard
Matt McKeon
Capt. R. W. Orrell

Washington
P. C. Beezley
Fred M. Harris
Col. Tom R. Hutton
Harry M. Robbins

Wisconsin
Mrs. Walter K. Graham
Mrs. Robert A. Murray
Mrs. Norman Skogstad

Wyoming
Dan Hanson
A. E. Larson

"But on one man's soul it hath broken,
A light that doth not depart;
And his look, or a word he hath spoken
Wrought flame in another man's heart."

62-[illegible]

March 30, 1961

X 101

REC 18 62-104401-897

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 23, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 30 1961
COMM-FBI

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

RWE:efr*
(3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

62 APR 5 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

[redacted] March 23, 1961.

b6
b7C

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I realize that you can't personally answer every letter which comes to you with a plea for information, but I do feel that this is so vital that I hope you will take the time to give me your help.

I am a member of the John Birch Society which I joined several months ago thinking it was the best way to fight Communism. I had read your book: "Masters of Deceit" and realized how easily duped we can be, so before I joined I asked your office here for information and they referred me to the Attorney General's Office for a list of Subversive Groups, which I wrote for and received. The John Birch was not listed. Then I wrote a friend in St. Louis, [redacted] who is [redacted] there and asked if she knew anything about it, and she replied that she was joining herself, as her Foundation studied Communism, but did not actively endorse any way to fight it. I have a friend in Nashville, Tenn., [redacted] who is on the board of the John Birch and who ~~xx~~ first told me about it. Tho' I ~~don't~~ always agree with him I have no doubt about his being a good American and having the best interest of the United States at heart. So I joined. And have been working to recruit members for our local

b6
b7C

NO 1962-104481-8

MAR 31 1961

ack 3-30-61 RWE

EX 101

CORRESPONDENCE

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Chapter. Now I'm wondering if I'm leading my friends on the wrong path. Hence my pleaefor help from you: Please tell me: Is the John Birch Society a subversive group?

I am a Catholic, the mother of two boys at Catholic High School; I'm President of two ladies organizations; and my husband and I are quite respected here in L.R. So If we back something it carries some weight and naturally I don't want to back something which will hinder the fight against Communism even if it is not subversive. I have found some of the ideas of the John Birch startling and have not always agreed with every proposal, but felt like I could overlook some things if it accomplished its goal of fighting Communism, encouraging free enterprise and the capitalist system.

Please reply promptly. God bless you.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

EX-114 REC-19 62-104401-898

March 29, 1961

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter postmarked March 20, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

MAILED 9
MAR 29 1961
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (4)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
The Communists Are After Our Minds
How To Fight Communism
Series From "Christianity Today"

see NOTE next page

66 APR 4 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

SAW:lcl* (3)

Letter to [redacted]

b6
b7C

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401) Correspondent and the National Student Statesman are not identifiable in Bufiles.

TRUE COPY

[redacted] b6 b7C

J. Edgar Hoover

The people of our community are worked up-over a question-that is being publicised a lot- Will you please give me information on The John Birch Society-and National Student Statesman.

I am against the infiltration of communism in to our Univerity's as well as High Schools ect and want to do all I can to keep America Free- Should I join these moves or oppose them- Its hard to know just what they are-good or bad- Thanking you for an early reply-

Respectfully

[redacted] b6 b7C

4.1.86 Spinacmke

1-true copy 2/24/61 lcl

EX-114

Ack: 3/28/61 SAW:lcl

REC-19 62-104401-898

12 MAR 31 1961

8-Dem/SAW

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (62-104401) DATE: 3/31/61

FROM : SAC, BOSTON (100-32899)

SUBJECT: THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

Re: Boston letter to the Director dated 2/17/61.

b6
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b7D

On March 21, 1961, [redacted] advised that he had no current information concerning the number of JOHN BIRCH CHAPTERS now functioning.

[redacted] stated that on his last personal contact with ROBERT WELCH, about two years ago, he was told that there were 20 chapters in Houston, Texas, and one chapter in Bismark, North Dakota. He has no additional information at the present time concerning the number of chapters of the JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY. He stated that if he obtained additional information concerning this, he would furnish same to the Bureau.

Because of [redacted] lack of particulars, the above information is being submitted by letter to the Bureau rather than by letterhead memorandum. b7D

This case is now being closed in the Boston Division.

-C-
2 - Bureau (62-104401) (RM)
1 - Boston (100-32899)
DBC:etg
(3)

CC destroyed

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-1-86 BY Maenke

EX-114

REC-91 62-104401-899

APR 3 1961

66 APR 7 1961

FD-36 (Rev. 12-13-56)

FBI

Date: 3/29/61

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL - REGISTERED
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-59001)

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

REC-80

Re letter from the Director, FBI to the Office of Security, Department of State, captioned "JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY, INFORMATION CONCERNING (INTERNAL SECURITY)" dated 3/21/61.

SA [redacted] contacted [redacted] for an appointment about 10:30 a.m., 3/25/61. She advised that she was very confused and stated that she would call back to advise when it would be convenient to see Agent. At approximately 11:00 a.m. [redacted] called and stated that Agent could call on her at 2:00 p.m., 3/25/61. b6 b7C

At 2:00 p.m. SA [redacted] called on [redacted] She advised that she was emotionally upset and distraught to the point where she was unable to talk to Agent. For this reason she had asked her friend, a [redacted] to meet with her and explain what she had in mind. While awaiting [redacted] the Bureau's jurisdiction and responsibility in the internal security field were explained to [redacted] She stated that her concern was over events which have been happening in Santa Barbara, California, which have been causing the people to become suspicious of each other. She mentioned the speeches made in Santa Barbara recently by CLEON SKOUSEN, [redacted] and [redacted] She stated that she considers them rabble rousers. At this point [redacted] arrived, whereupon [redacted] stated that he could explain what she had in mind. [redacted] was advised of the Bureau's responsibilities in the security field. b6 b7C

62-[illegible] 900

3 - Bureau (AM - REGISTERED)
1 - Los Angeles

EX-114 REC-80 MAR 31 1961

RLM:CEA
(4)

Approved: H. W. G. Simon Special Agent in Charge Sent _____ M

55 APR 6 1961

[redacted] is employed as a technical writer at the U. S. Navy Pacific Missile Range, Point Mugu, California. He stated he is quite concerned over the furor which the John Birch Society is causing in Santa Barbara. He stated the local paper in Santa Barbara had editorialized against the John Birch Society which resulted in a division of thought in the Santa Barbara community. Several months ago he attended a gathering where a tape by ROBERT WELCH, described as the founder of the Society, was heard. [redacted] stated WELCH practically accused President EISENHOWER of being a communist and spoke in high tones of the quality of the government in the Dominican Republic.

b6
b7C

Later [redacted] wrote a letter to the "Santa Barbara News-Press" denouncing the John Birch Society. As a result of the publication of this letter, several calls were made to Lt. Commander [redacted] by unidentified persons calling [redacted] a "dirty communist" and asking questions such as "what are you going to do about it." He stated he considers this an insidious attack in an attempt to get his job because of his open objection to what he considers a completely wrong method of fighting communism.

b6
b7C

[redacted] stated that he has worked for the U. S. Government in the propaganda field and was with OSS during World War II. He directed anti-communist and anti-Fascist propaganda and movies and believes that he has a background of being anti-communist as well as anti-Fascist that should satisfy even the severest critic.

[redacted] continued, stating that "the John Birch Complex" should be watched as a possible silver shirt type organization. He stated that the Director of the FBI should be advised that "while passing under cover of anti-communist, the John Birch complex is using his name and a stable of retired FBI men as covers for their meetings." He mentioned specifically CLEON SKOUSEN, HERBERT PHILBRICK and MATT CVETIC. The John Birch Society is encouraging the reading of anti-communist literature put out by the Director of the FBI as well as his book "Masters of Deceit." They are showing the films "Operation Abolition" and "Communism on the Map," all of which has as its objective the lending of dignity to their organization and of confusing the people as to their true purpose. [redacted] stated in this connection that he has no objection to the Director's book and that he intends to

b6
b7C

read it himself some day. The John Birch complex is a rebirth of all the worst aspects of the MC CARTHY era, except that this is worse because it has a brain behind it. He felt that the Director must avoid becoming a tool of the John Birch complex.

[redacted] continued that in Santa Barbara a [redacted] an employee of U. S. Congressman TEAGUE, with office in the Post Office Building in Santa Barbara, "brainwashed" him for an hour concerning the communist threat to our schools and churches. A [redacted] is a tool of the John Birch Society by publishing a sheet called "The Freedom Press." A [redacted] who writes anti-communist articles is spreading the John Birch line. The Santa Barbara Speakers Forum is part of the John Birch Society (JBS) and is bringing to Santa Barbara such speakers as CLEON SKOUSEN, [redacted] and the like. b6 b7C

Concerning Lt. Commander [redacted] [redacted] stated that [redacted] was given an award at Point Mugu recently by the U. S. Navy for having made 200 speeches against communism. At least one speech was made under the auspices of the JBS in Ventura, California, and one under the auspices of [redacted] in Santa Barbara. [redacted] questions the wisdom of permitting the use of a Navy officer in this fashion. b6 b7C

Both [redacted] and [redacted] are known to SAs [redacted] and [redacted] as being strongly anti-communist and who have stated that although they are not members of the JBS, they do approve of its anti-communist aims. [redacted] has published four or five monthly issues of a throwaway which she now calls "The Freedom Press." [redacted] has a weekly syndicated column which appears in more than a hundred newspapers in which she has been doing a series of articles for teen-agers on the dangers of communism. b6 b7C

[redacted] stated that one of his chief sources of information in this connection is [redacted] writer for the "News-Press" who wrote the articles which appeared in the News-Press "exposing" the JBS.

[redacted] stated that what he has to say could be summed up by saying that in his opinion "the John Birch complex" is causing lack of faith in democratic principles and is as great a threat to this country as communism.

[redacted] stated she thinks that what [redacted] has said sums up her opinions on this subject.

b6
b7C

Neither [redacted] nor [redacted] asked any specific question concerning the John Birch Society; therefore, no statements were volunteered.

The indices of the Los Angeles Office contained no information of a derogatory, subversive nature regarding [redacted] or [redacted]

REC-11

1-901

March 29, 1961

EX-108

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

4-1-86 Spinnamer

Your letter of March 20, 1961, has been received, and I want to thank you for your kind comments about the work being done by this Bureau. Your prayers and remarks are most encouraging.

In response to your request, I am forwarding copies of the articles you mentioned to the individuals you named.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED 9
MAR 30 1961
COMM-FBI

What You Can Do To Fight Communism
17th National Convention of CP, USA
Expose of Soviet Expionage
One Nation's Response to Communism
Communist Target--Youth and
copy of article from Christianity Today sent to the following individuals;

[redacted]

[redacted]

b6
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[redacted]

NOTE: Correspondent wrote, requesting information about the John Birch Society. His letter was cordially acknowledged on March 9, 1961, and he was sent material on communism. This material is currently being sent to the people he mentioned.

SAW:mca
(3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Sullivan
Room

TRUE COPY

[redacted] b6 b7C
3/20/61

21

Mr. John Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Thank you so very much for your letter and the material on communism. It sure has awakened me more than ever, especially the articles, The Communist Menace, Red Goal & Christian Idea.

b6 b7C

I believe every Christian pastor and layman should have copies Therefore would appreciate it very much if you would send some of this same material to the following addresses [redacted] and [redacted]

It is so good to know that we still have real Christian men in our Government that are on guard while we have been sleeping Please accept my humble Thanks for your dedicated service to God and our country. Our prayers on your behalf and our country will always be brought to the throne of mercy of our Savior Jesus Christ

We salute you as a fellow Christian and hope and pray that this menace to our way of life will be warded off. And I feel with Gods help it can be done.

A thousand thanks to you in the name of Christ.

Very sincerely
[redacted]

b6 b7C

[redacted]

62-104401 9.01

REC-11 EX-108

APR 4 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
[illegible]
[illegible] 4.1.86 Sprnacmkr

8-Dem/SAW

1te [illegible] 3-28-61
[illegible]
ack 3-29-61
SHW/[illegible]

March 30, 1961

REC-11
EX-108

62-104401-902

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 20, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 30 1961
COMM-FBI

NOTE: By letter 2/7/61 [redacted] was advised that we cannot evaluate individuals in answer to her inquiry regarding some Hollywood personalities. She was sent material at that time.
The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachuset ts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
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RWE:efr*
(3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

TRUE COPY

March 20, 1961
[redacted]

b6
b7C

Mr. J. E. Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover

I am very proud to be a member of the John Birch society. Lately there have been attacks on the society by Time, some ministers and several newspapers. The society has been called a lot of names, "red baiters," "~~hitbribs~~" hitlerites and others.

Mr. Hoover, everyone respects you, except maybe a communist and he fears you. If you think the John Birch society is o.k. could you drop me a note saying so so I could show it to my friends when they question me about it?

Thank you for your time and effort

/s/ [redacted]

b6
b7C

REC-11
EX-108 62-104401-902

25 APR 4 1961

3-28-61

ack 3-30-61 RWE:sfr

RWE-8

4.1.61 Spmacmkr

RA REC- 95 62-104401-- 903

March 30, 1961

EX 101

[redacted]

4-1-86 b6 b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 24, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated. Thank you for your generous remarks.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to your inquiry.

Enclosed, for your information, is a reprint of a statement I made on March 26, 1947, before the Un-American Activities Committee of the United States House of Representatives, and on page 17, you will find a discussion of the question of outlawing the Communist Party. In my remarks you will note that I pointed out some of the factors which would warrant attention if legislation of this type were being considered. I am taking the liberty of enclosing some other material on the general subject of communism which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 30 1961
COMM-FBI

MAR 10 4 10 PM '61

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Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (5)

APR 7 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

RWE:jpr (3)

See NOTE: and enclosures next page.

NOTE: The **John Birch Society was founded in 12/38 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommmmist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)** No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent.

Enclosures
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Statement of Director before Committee on Un-American Activities
March 26, 1947, Washington, D. C.
One Nation's Response to Communism
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Series from "Christianity Today".

[redacted]

b6
b7C

March 24, 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover,

As you know there has been a great deal of controversy over The John Birch Society. I have been trying to form an opinion of this Society, but unfortunately I find it very difficult to form an accurate picture of it.

Would you be so kind as to write me your evaluation of this particular group.

A few years ago I believe that I read that you are against out lawing the Communist Party because you felt the communists would then work underground. Is this still your belief? At this present time, it seems to me, that they are working both underground and 'overground'. "Our Constitution was never meant to protect those who would destroy it." So if the Communists and their Party were outlawed more action could be taken and it would help to clear up the thinking of many of our good but 'confused' citizens.

Would it be possible for you to give me your opinion on these two matters?

At this time may I thank you for the many, many years of service you have devoted to our country.

May God continue to bless you with wisdom and strength.

Sincerely,

/s/ [redacted]

b6
b7C

Spraemke

4-1-86

EX 101

REC-95 62-104401-903

APR 4 1961

Act: 3-30-61
RWE

1-TC
3-29-61

REC- 95 62-104421-904

March 30, 1961

EX 104

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED b6 b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 21, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 30 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)
(listed next page)
see Note next page
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56 APR 6 1961

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Enclosures
Director's Speech 10-18-60
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Beat Communism
17th National Convention, CP, UAS & 3-60 LEB Intro
Series from "Christianity Today"

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

TRUE COPY

[redacted] b6
b7C

March 21, 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Please send me information about the John Birch Society.

This organization is very active in our town. They preach so much "hate" that I am wondering if perhaps they are more communist inspired than the organizations and individuals they preach against.

Sincerely,

[redacted] b6
b7C

One True Copy
March 29, 1961
SH

REC- 95 62-104401-904

17 APR 4 1961

EX 104

March 30, 1961

REC- 95 62-104401-905

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 22, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,
L. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 30 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (3)
(listed next page)
see NOTE next page
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(3)

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W.C. Sullivan
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66 APR 7 1961

ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4.1.86 BY SP MACMURE

Enclosures
What You Can Do Tof Fight Communism
How To Fight Communism
Communism: Bitter Enemy of Religion

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. In view of the reply given,correspondent's last question is being ignored.
The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

[redacted] b6 b7C

22 March 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I would appreciate any material you have on the John Birch Society. There has been considerable comment raised in Fargo, North Dakota at a meeting attributed to their organization.

I also wish to know the offical position, if any, the bureau has taken.

Please list any material which would give information on this society or if this is not possible could you tell me where I might obtain any of the above information.

[redacted] b6 b7C

ack 3-30-61 SAW: [illegible]

101 XE

REC- 95 62-104401-905

APR 4 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-1-86 [illegible]

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: 3-29-61

FROM : W. A. Branigan

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

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Callahan
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Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
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Ingram
Gandy

At 10:10 a.m., March 29, 1961, [redacted] Office of Naval Intelligence, phoned Special Agent [redacted] and stated that in connection with an individual who had made application for employment with ONI the applicant had stated he was a member of the John Birch Society, which the applicant said was "on the FBI Preferred List." [redacted] asked if there was any such thing as an FBI Preferred List, and he was told by Special Agent [redacted] that the latter was not aware of the existence of such a list, but that if ONI desired to check the accuracy of the applicant's statement it should be brought to the Bureau's attention through regular channels in connection with any name check request on the applicant.

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Agent [redacted] did not discuss the John Birch Society with [redacted] primary function in ONI is censorship planning.

b6
b7C

ACTION:

For information.

REC- 31

1 - Mr. ~~Parsons~~ Baumgardner
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. Branigan
1 - [redacted]
1 - [redacted]

62-104401-906

APR 4 1961

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EX 104

LW:mhd (7)

51 APR 7 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-1-86 BY [illegible]

REC-80 62-104401-907

EX 104

March 30, 1961

[redacted]

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Dear [redacted]

I have received your cordial letter of March 23, 1961, with enclosures, and I do want you to know that I am most appreciative for your generous expressions of confidence in my administration of the FBI.

In response to your inquiry, the quotation you mentioned appears on page 3 of the publication, "One Nation's Response to Communism," and I am sending it to you, under separate cover, along with several other items setting forth my views on this subject which you may like to have.

I can readily understand your deep concern over the grave threat posed by communism, and I do want to thank you for your endeavors regarding the distribution of reviews of my book, "Masters of Deceit." Your comments are indeed welcome.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 30 1961
COMM-FBI

1 - [redacted] Room 4235
USC Material
The American Legion Speech 10-18-60
3-60 LEB Introduction & 17th National Convention CP USA
Communist Target--Youth
One Nation's Response to Communism
Series from "Christianity Today"

b6
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NOTE: Bufiles contain no derogatory information regarding correspondent.

JMM:hmm (5)

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W.C. Sullivan
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55 APR 10 1961

[redacted]

b6
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Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

March 23, 1961

Exp

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

From the letters you have probably received from this area you no doubt realize that there is a considerable tension in our communities. The John Birch Society, and the controversy it arouses, demonstrate that tension.

I am enclosing two articles from our local newspaper: one a statement from a group of ministers, and a reply from the coordinator of the John Birch Society here. In this latter is a statement attributed to you which I have outlined in red.

Would you please let me know in what context you made this statement. If you would care to say whether the information on which you based your statement justifies the statement by General Lee I would certainly appreciate it.

Some of us who are concerned about the communist menace, but are also concerned about preserving our American way of life, have been circulating reviews of Masters of Deceit. I surely appreciate the sane and sensible way in which you present the problems we face in this line.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Encls.

MAR 24 1961

30

EX 104

REC- 80 62-104401-907

APR 4 1961

ENCLOSURE

ack 3-29-61

Lee Replies on Ministers' Challenge

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Last week, Brig. Gen. (Ret.) William L. Lee, retired commander of Amarillo Air Force Base and volunteer co-ordinator of the John Birch Society, was called upon by a group of Amarillo ministers to present "documented evidence" which he claimed to have that would show the National Council of Churches has been infiltrated by Communists. Gen. Lee had made his claim while denying that his society had anything to do with rumors or an alleged list of Amarillo Communists. This is his answer to the ministers.)

I am delighted to refute the local ministers' statement of March 8, 1961, most of which parroted verbatim portions of the National Council of Churches' booklet prepared for such occasions titled "the Truth", and the balance of their statement, which revealed their originality and their ignorance of the fact that there *is presently no law against being* a Communist in this country or a dupe thereof.

● ● ●

First, Mr. J. Edgar Hoover is well aware of the Communist and dupes in religion. This fact is revealed in his recent statement.

By the late 1930's, the Communist Party had been successful in maneuvering itself into the mainstreams of American Life. Communist influence was exercising through a myriad of interlocking FRONT groups, ostensibly designed to counter the threat of fascism, but covertly manipulated by the Communist party for its own purpose. Many prominent educators, writers, artist, entertainers, CLERGYMEN, and others influential in molding public opinion were DUPED, *not only into supporting* Communist causes, but also into STIFLING ANTI-Communist views.

Of course, the National Council of Churches and its puppets would like to see all information on Communism in the churches funneled through the F.B.I., which is the private detective agency of the Department of Justice and is NOT ALLOWED to REVEAL such information to the public Congressional committees, such as the House Un-American Activities Committee and the Senate Internal *Security Committee may, how*ever, disclose publicly the names of individuals and organizations which are collaborating with the Communist conspiracy in the United States. This appears to be the reason that the National Council of Churches has through its many pronouncements tried to discredit these committees and their activities. It is well to note here that the House Un-American Committee, that has done much to expose the conspiracy in religion, has recently received overwhelming support from the House in that its new budget was approved by a 412 to 6 vote. This committee which cannot be blinded or gagged by threat of an organization which infers that it speaks FOR (and not TO, as the ministers would like their congregations to believe) some 38 to 40 million members, is a duly and legally constituted committee of Congress and I feel that most Americans rely upon its judge*ment. The fact that the National* Council of Churches and its puppets have made repeated attempts to discredit the House Un-American Activities Committee leaves me but one conclusion — that they fear exposure. Their attempt in discrediting the House Un-American Committee's film "Operation Abolition" which was a documented film, if there every was one, brought light to even some of their own leaders such as Reverend Curtis R. Nims who resigned as Director of the Northern California-Nevada Council of Churches *in February, 1961.*

Dr. Nims states that he resigned because of the National Council of Churches' pronouncements on "Operation Abolition" were unfounded and that the film "presents a fair representation of the deplorable events" that took place during the youth riots in San Francisco. One thing the National Council *of Churches* can't hide forever is the truth — as you see Rev. Dr. Nims was present at the riots. Dr. Nims went on to say about the National Council

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE [illegible] BY [illegible]

62-104461-907

ENCLOSURE

Amarillo Globe-Times
Amarillo, Texas
March 17, 1961

38th Year, No. 11 10 Cents 36 Pages Amarillo, Tex., Wednesday, March 8, 1961

Ministers Ask Lee To Back Charges

A group of Amarillo ministers today called on a retired Air Force general here to take any documented evidence which he has concerning Communism in the National Council of Churches to proper authorities.

The ministers said in a prepared statement that any such evidence does not belong in the hands of individuals or organized groups, but should be turned over to the FBI and proper courts "that action under the law can be taken to resolve the said charges."

Participating in preparation of the paper were nine ministers representing all denominations in Amarillo which are associated in the National Council of Churches. *Eight of the ministers* signed the document. One, who was in on the preparation of most of the paper, was called from the meeting and had not had an opportunity to sign the document by noon today.

In their paper, the ministers cited a statement made recently by the National Council in which it was denied that any Communist influence is present in that organization.

They called the charges made on Monday by Brig. Gen. (Ret.) William L. Lee of Amarillo as being in violent contradiction with the National Council statement *and called attention to the* "Constitutional right of every American citizen to be confronted by his accusers and be tried by the courts."

Ministers who signed the instrument are: Bishop George Quarterman, bishop of the Episcopal diocese; Dr. E. B. Landreth, district superintendent *of the Methodist Church: the* Rev. Charley P. Harnest, Covenant Presbyterian Church; the Rev. Clayton Sugg, minister of Grace Lutheran Church; Dr. Luther Kirk, minister of San Jacinto Methodist Church; Dr. Jordan Grooms, minister of Polk Street Methodist Church; Dr. Newton Robison, minister of First Christian Church, and Dr. Skinner, *minister of First* Presbyterian Church.

Dr. William Everhart, minister of Westminister Presbyterian Church, was present for most of the discussions, but was called from the meeting before it was completed and had not signed by noon.

The statement follows:

"We, the undersigned ministers, are concerned by the charge that the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA has been infiltrated by Communists and the claim that [illegible] has in his hands 'documented proof' of this fact. We, as Christian citizens, would welcome any opportunity to rid the country of Communist infiltration *in the church or in any* area of our society.

"The public charge made by Gen. Lee is in direct contradiction to the following statement from the leaders of The National Council of Churches in *the USA:*

"'From its very first moment of existence in December 1950, when the denominations constituted this agency to witness to their unity in Christ and to conduct their cooperative work, the National Council of Churches has never had a Communist Party member or sympathizer among its officers or staff, or its executives. Every one of these devoted church members is deeply loyal to his country. Every one of them resists by *conviction*, and by virtue of his professional activity, the attemps of Communism to infiltrate and undermine a free society both in America and other nations of the world. The Council defies anyone to offer proof of probative value to the country.

"'Since the Council was formed, literally thousands of clergymen and laity have participated actively in the work of its numerous departments and committees, including the members of the Revised Standard Bible Committee. We know of no one of these thousands who has Communistic leanings. Certainly none has

(See MINISTERS—Page 2)

House Of Ext

BULLETIN!

AUSTIN (AP)—The House today killed, at least temporarily, a bill that would allow electric cooperatives to expand into newly annexed areas of cities.

Members voted 77-64 to table the entire bill HB2 after it had been amended numerous times.

AUSTIN (AP) — The House jumped quickly today into one of the hottest issues of the 57th Legislature, extending service of Rural Electric Cooperatives into suburban areas.

The measure, carrying the high priority number of House Bill No. 2, was laid out minutes after the House met at 10 a.m.

Insurance Plan Faces Shelf Move

AUSTIN (UPI) — Texas Legislature today considered suspension of the

62-104401-907

ENCLOSURE

REC-61 62-104401-908

March 31, 1961

[redacted]

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Dear [redacted]

Your letter dated March 22, 1961, has been received, and I appreciate your very generous comments about the work of the FBI.

While I would like to be of assistance, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not furnish evaluations or comments relative to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. Information in the files of the FBI is confidential and available for official use only due to regulations of the Department of Justice. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that our files do or do not contain data regarding the subjects of your inquiry.

In view of your interest, I am enclosing material pertaining to the general subject of communism.

MAILED 9
MAR 31 1961
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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W.C. Sullivan
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Enclosures (5)
Communist Party, USA
Communist Illusion & Democratic Reality
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth
3-60 LEB Intro & 17th Nat'l Conv.

SAW:plt
(3)

(See note next page.)

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MAR 31 12 34 PM '61
FBI

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

[redacted] is not identifiable in Bufiles.

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March 22, 1961.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington,
DC.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-7-86 BY SP7 [illegible]

Gentlemen:

Many times in the past few weeks my wife and I have been approached by some of our close friends to join the John Birch Society. These friends are already members of the Societ and on one occasion they invited us as their guests to a meeting of a Chapter of this group. put it simply, we were somewhat confused by the procedure, particularly in the matter of secrecy and in its insistence on no criticism of the Society's methods and no inquiries relative to its Founder, Mr. Robert Welch.

The purpose of this letter is to seek from the one absolutely reliable, trustworth unimpeachable, and authoritative source--the Federal Bureau of Investigation--some pertinent information that, without any danger of violating national security measures, would very definitely satisfy our curiosity, clarify our thinking, and dispel our confusion relative to the John Birch Society and to its Founder, Mr. Robert Welch.

In the first place, we would like to know if there is any reason whatsoever for th FBI to have even a breath of suspicion regarding the principles and objectives of the John Birch Society. Is it the opinion of the Bureau that this group is all that it purports to be: a thoroughly, one-hundred per cent, patriotic American Society dedicated to fighting atheisti Communism in our beloved country by exposing the extent of its infiltration and by alerting o people to the threat aimed at our American way of life by such infiltration?

In the second place, we would like to know if the FBI have any thoughts on the composition of the John Birch Society relative to its being possibly a cleverly set-up organization whose real purpose is hidden beneath the guise of genuine Americanism. We have heard it suggested that the John Birch Society could perhaps be a front for ultimate subversion. If there is any ground for truth in such a suggestion, we, as private citizens with five young children , would certainly feel a lot better--and, indeed, a lot safer--in the knowledge that the FBI has any such ground for suspicion and that it has this Society under surveillance, an if that knowledge could be entrusted to us without complicating our national interests and security measures.

In the third place, we would like to know if the Bureau has anything on its files that would cause them to be in any way suspicious of Mr. Robert Welch and of those associated with him in the top eschelons of the John Birch Society. Does Mr. Welch, as well as those of the Society's leaders, enjoy a "clean bill of health" with the FBI?

By such inquiries as these, we most assuredly have no intention of pointing the fi ger of suspicion at Mr. Welch, or his associates in the leadership of the John Birch Society, or the members of the Society among whom locally are a number of our very close friends of ma years. Neither is it our intention to pin any kind of label on the Society and on those who b long to it. In fact, if their purpose is all that it purports to be, and is acknowledged to b such by the FBI, we have only the highest of praise and the greatest of admiration for their work and, indeed, would gladly join them to bring about the kind of America we want to have f our children as our parents gave it to us. It is in this spirit of honest inquiry that we res pectfully submit the above questions to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the answers that we know will be as true as they will be authoritative. 62-104401-908

Sincerely and hopefully,

(Signed) [redacted]

RESPONDENCE

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b7C

nml
ack 3-31-61
SALV/pet

RA REC 62-104401-909

EX 104

March 31, 1961

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 23, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is a copy of the publication you requested.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 31 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosure
Expose of Soviet Espionage

see NOTE next page

RWE:lcl* (3)

51 APR 7 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAR 31 3 15 PM '61

Letter to [redacted]

b6
b7C

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

March 23, 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4.1.86 BY SP/MACMKE

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Could you give me any informatiom about the John Birch Socity?.

I am a member and have not been ashamed of my association with them. The attack that is going on in the local newspapers and by Gov. Brown seems completely unfair. Also do you have "Expose of Soviet Espionage"?.

b6
b7C

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

Ack: 3/31/61
RWE: lcl

D

REC- 62 62-104401-909.

APR 4 1961

EX 104

CORRESPONDENCE